ATLAS
JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY
JOURNEY INTO
DEC.
MYSTERY
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
NO. 29
10¢
10¢
ALL NEW MYSTERIES
DON'T DARE MISS:
"SOMEONE IS IN MY ROOM!"
"THREE FRIGHTENED PEOPLE!"

SKINNY

MEN ARE OFTEN ASHAMED TO STRIP FOR SPORTS OR FOR A SWIM!

GIRLS ARE NOT ALLURING AND DON'T HAVE EYE-CATCHING CURVES!

CHILDREN WHO WON'T EAT AND ARE UNDERWEIGHT, OFTEN CALLED SKINNY!

Now at last More-Wate plan that puts firm, attractive pounds and inches on your body, chest, arms and legs.

GAIN MORE WEIGHT
IN 10 DAYS OR YOUR MONEY BACK!

Amazing New Way developed by modern medical science to put on weight on lean bodies. **Guaranteed** to give you up to an **extra pound a day!** Or **your money back!** Why should you dread going to parties and socials, simply because you look scrawny and spindly? Why ever feel self-conscious about your body again? If you're **underweight*** . . . or just a little on the thin side, due to faulty appetite, or bad dietary habits, you can **put on up to a pound a day** of **attractive weight** without exercise . . . dangerous drugs . . . or special diet . . . and more quickly, more easily than you ever dreamed possible . . . with MORE-WATE. MORE-WATE contains no dangerous drugs . . . you **eat it like candy!** Yet . . . if you were to have this same prescription compounded to your order, it would cost you many times more. However, through this introductory offer, you can obtain **4-way** MORE-WATE tablets . . . a full 10 days' supply . . . for just $1.00 or a 30 day supply for only $2.98, plus a 10 day supply free, with an absolute money-back guarantee! Yes, try MORE-WATE for TEN DAYS . . . and if not entirely delighted with weight gained, return the unused supply for full refund! You've nothing to lose . . . and **weight to gain!** Act now! Stop being the guy or the gal that everyone calls "skinny." Stop being the guy or the gal who dreads summer and going to parties and socials because it means everyone will enjoy themselves and you won't. Don't be a wallflower, because you have a figure like a broomstick! **Gain more weight!**

10-DAY SUPPLY ONLY $1.

The 4-way MORE-WATE tablets are **unconditionally guaranteed** to put on weight . . . or it doesn't cost you a penny! MORE-WATE is a **delicious,** full strength, 4-way tablet . . . that combines not just one . . . or two . . . but 4 of the most amazing aids for **gaining weight** known to medical science. MORE-WATE is not a liquid . . . not a powder. It's **delicious, pleasant-tasting tablet!** It contains vitamin **B-12** . . . the **amazing red vitamin doctors** give many **underweight patients in hospitals** . . . It contains Iron that helps correct iron deficiency, anemia and builds rich, red blood. It contains appetite-building vitamin B-1 . . . and it contains nutritious easily assimilated malt, the amazing ingredient that helps your body turn much of the food you eat into **well rounded flesh** instead of being wasted. **That's the secret of putting on weight.** Now you can help your food to **add new pounds** to your **arms, chest, hips, thighs,** and **legs.** Now you don't have to be skinny . . . or afraid to be seen socially and be ashamed of your figure! **You must achieve the figure you want . . . or don't pay anything.** Act now!

Not one child yet has failed to go for and ask for more MORE-WATE tablets! Stop worrying about children not eating enough, give them MORE-WATE tablets—it stimulates their appetite . . . they eat it like candy!

MAIL THIS NO RISK TRIAL COUPON NOW!

SENSATIONAL 10-DAY TEST!

Mail the coupon now! Test the amazing MORE-WATE tablet plan for 10 days at our expense. If after 10 days your friends, your mirror and your scale do not tell you that you have gained weight and look better you pay nothing!

MORE-WATE CO., Dept. M95
318 Market Street, Newark, N. J.

Just mail us your name and address, and $1.00 cash, check or money order. You will receive a 10 day supply of MORE-WATE tablets and plan, postage prepaid.

☐ Send me 30 day supply plus an extra 10 day supply (that's a 40 day supply) for $2.98. I understand that if I am not delighted with MORE-WATE tablets and plan, I can return the 30 day supply in 10 days for full purchase price refund, and keep the 10 day supply without charge.

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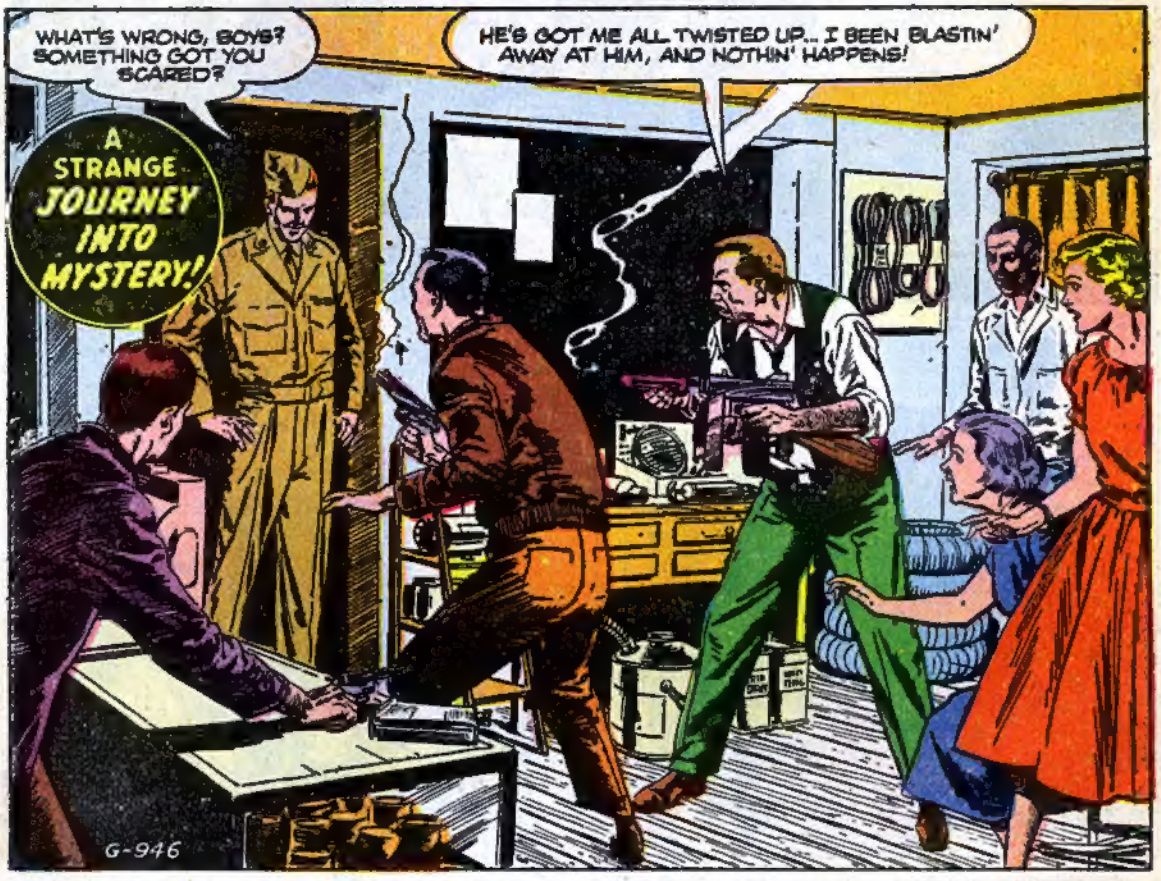
THREE DESPERATE FUGITIVES HELD THEIR TERRIFIED PRISONERS AT GUNPOINT! THEY'D BE SAFE FROM THE LAW, HOLED UP IN THIS LONELY SPOT... BUT HOW COULD THEY KNOW THE BATTLE-WISE YOUNGSTER WAS COMING BACK FROM KOREA? HOW COULD THEY KNOW THE AMAZING CIRCUMSTANCES THAT MADE HIM IMMUNE TO THEIR BULLETS?

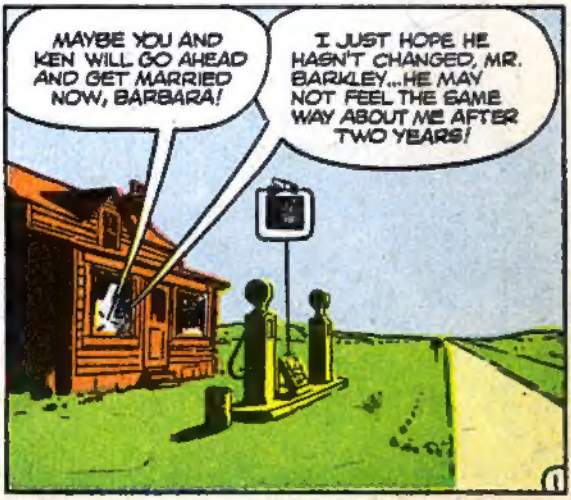
THREE FRIGHTENED PEOPLE


WHAT'S WRONG, BOYS? SOMETHING GOT YOU SCARED?
HE'S GOT ME ALL TWISTED UP... I BEEN BLASTIN' AWAY AT HIM, AND NOTHIN' HAPPENS!
A STRANGE JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY!
G-946

ONLY THAT MORNING JOE AND HELEN BARKLEY WERE HAPPIER THAN THEY'D BEEN FOR YEARS...

IT'LL BE THE MOST WONDERFUL BIRTHDAY PARTY I'VE EVER HAD! ARE YOU SURE THE TELEGRAM SAID KEN WOULD BE HOME TODAY?
YES, BARBARA! OUR BOY WILL BE HOME TODAY!

THE BARKLEY PLACE STOOD ALONE ON THAT LONG, DESOLATE STRETCH OF MONTANA HIGHWAY! BARBARA STEVENS HAD TO TRAVEL FIVE MILES FROM HOME FOR KEN'S RETURN...


MAYBE YOU AND KEN WILL GO AHEAD AND GET MARRIED NOW, BARBARA!
I JUST HOPE HE HASN'T CHANGED, MR. BARKLEY... HE MAY NOT FEEL THE SAME WAY ABOUT ME AFTER TWO YEARS!

IT WAS NO MORE THAN FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER...THE HOT MORNING SUN BEAT DOWN ON THE DUSTY SEDAN THAT SLOWED DOWN AS IT REACHED THE BARKLEY PLACE...

PARK IN THE BACK, HAMLIN...THE COPS'LL BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR SURE!

THREE STONY-FACED MEN THEY WERE...HARDENED CONVICTS, DODGING A POLICE DRAGNET...

TAKE A LOOK INSIDE... I'LL WATCH OUT HERE!

SO IT'S A ***STICK-UP***... ONLY YOU'VE PICKED THE WRONG PLACE! WE'VE GOT VERY LITTLE MONEY!

WE DON'T WANT MONEY! WE WANT ***FOOD!***

IF YOU'RE SMART, YOU'LL CLEAR OUT! MY SON'LL BE HOME SOON... HE'S HANDLED ***TOUGHER*** MEN THAN YOU OVER IN KOREA!

HOW 'BOUT THAT, DOYLE! THEY'VE GOT A ***BIG*** WELCOME HOME FEED GOIN'!

KEEP AN EYE ON THESE TWO, BOYS! I'M GOING OUT TO THE KITCHEN WITH THE OLD LADY!

WHY DON'T YOU GO AWAY? WE WERE SO HAPPY BEFORE YOU CAME!

YOU GOT NOTHIN' TO WORRY ABOUT, LADY! WE JUST WANT TO HANG AROUND HERE FOR A FEW DAYS!

THE BARKLEYS AND BARBARA HOPEFULLY WAITED FOR KEN'S ARRIVAL! AS THE LONG SHADOWS OF DUSK SPREAD OVER THE LAND, A MOTORCYCLE ROARED UP OUTSIDE...

DON'T GET ANY SMART IDEAS! WE'LL BE WATCHIN' YOU FROM THE NEXT ROOM... ONE WRONG WORD AND THAT'S IT!

THE ESCAPED CONS WAITED TILL THEY HEARD THE SPUTTER OF THE MOTORCYCLE STARTING AWAY BEFORE THEY CAME OUT OF HIDING...

"...BAD FLYING WEATHER...NO PLANES HOME FOR SEVERAL DAYS... SORRY TO MISS BABS' BIRTHDAY PARTY BUT I'LL BE THERE IN SPIRIT... LOVE, KEN!" NOW AIN'T THAT JUST TOO BAD!

SO YOUR HERO AIN'T COMIN' TO THE RESCUE! WELL, YOU AIN'T GOT A WORRY IN THE WORLD IF YOU BEHAVE YOURSELVES!
BUT YOU'LL BE COMIN' WITH US! WE NEED HOSTAGES TO GET US THROUGH THE POLICE ROAD BLOCKS!

YOU'LL BE PUNISHED FOR THIS! YOU'VE COME INTO A PEACEFUL HOME AND THREATENED HELPLESS PEOPLE! YOU'RE NOTHING BUT BULLIES..
YES, POP, THAT'S ALL THEY ARE... BULLIES!

A COLD CHILL RAN THROUGH THE FUGITIVES AT THE VOICE FROM BEHIND...

THE DESPERADOES WHIRLED AS ONE! THEN FRANK DOYLE BROKE INTO A FIERCE GRIN...

SO THE SOLDIER BOY FOUND HIS WAY HOME! GET OVER BY YOUR OL' MAN! THE PARTY'S JUST BEGINNIN'!
YOU'RE NOT TALKING TO AN OLD MAN NOW! IF YOU WANT ME TO DO SOMETHING...MAKE ME!

ACRID BLUE WISPS OF SMOKE CREPT FROM THE BARREL OF THE GUN AS THE STARTLED FUGITIVES STARED AT THE VACANT DOORWAY...
SOMETHING GOT YOU SCARED, TOUGH GUY? MAYBE YOUR AIM'S BAD!
KEN BARKLEY EMERGED TAUNTINGLY FROM STILL ANOTHER DOORWAY...
YOU CAN'T MISS NOW, DOYLE... BLAST HIM!
HE CAN'T SQUEEZE THE TRIGGER! HE'S SCARED OF ME!
I DON'T LIKE THIS, DOYLE! WHEN A GUY AIN'T SCARED OF BULLETS...IT'S TIME TO CLEAR OUT!
NOTHIN' DOIN'! HE'S NOT BLUFFIN' ME! YOU AND HAMLIN GET SOME SLEEP! I'LL KEEP AN EYE ON THINGS!
ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT FRANK DOYLE SAT GUARD, BATTLING TO KEEP AWAKE...BUT SHORTLY AFTER DAWN...
DOYLE, LOOK OUT!
NO, YOU DON'T!
I'VE BEEN SHOT AT BEFORE, AND I'M STILL HERE! YOU'D BETTER LET ME HAVE THE GUN!
NO...KEEP AWAY FROM ME! I'M NOT QUITTIN, MISTER. NOT WHILE I GOT YOUR FOLKS AND GIRL FRIEND AS HOSTAGES!
MAYBE THEY WON'T BE AS GOOD AT DODGIN' SLUGS AS YOU ARE, SOLDIER! NOW MAYBE YOU'LL DO LIKE I TELL YOU!
DOYLE, YOU'RE YELLOW! YOU WON'T SQUEEZE THAT TRIGGER, AND I'M GOING TO TAKE THAT GUN FROM YOU!
4

KEN MOVED ON UNHESITANTLY, HIS UNBLINKING EYES HOLDING DOYLE'S! THE CON FELT AN INNER WEAKNESS, A TREMBLING THROUGHOUT HIS BODY...

DOYLE MADE ONE LAST, DESPERATE EFFORT, AIMED POINT-BLANK AT KEN, BUT FELT POWERLESS TO PULL THE TRIGGER! HE SAGGED BROKENLY...

THE POLICE SOON ARRIVED AND FOUND THE THREE CONVICTS STUPEFIED AND SUBMISSIVE...

IT WAS MY SON THAT CAPTURED 'EM! MY KEN...WHERE IS HE? I WANT YOU TO MEET HIM!
HE'S NOWHERE AROUND, MR. BARKLEY! I'VE LOOKED ALL OVER! HE DISAPPEARED WHEN THE POLICE CAME!

A CAR DROVE UP ABOUT AN HOUR LATER, AND KEN BARKLEY LEAPED OUT...RUSHED INTO THE HOUSE, HIS FACE BEAMING WITH HAPPINESS...

MOM... POP AND BARBARA! IT'S SURE GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN! WELL, AREN'T YOU GLAD TO SEE ME?
NO MORE GLAD TO SEE YOU THAN WE WERE LAST NIGHT, SON! NO TELLING WHAT THOSE MEN WOULD HAVE DONE IF YOU HADN'T COME HOME IN TIME!

THE WAY YOU HANDLED THOSE BRUTES.. IT WAS THE BRAVEST THING WE'VE EVER SEEN! BUT WHERE DID YOU GO AFTER THE POLICE CAME?
BRUTES? POLICE? LOOK, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT! I MANAGED TO GET A PLANE RIDE FROM CALIFORNIA AFTER ALL, BUT AT 4 O'CLOCK THIS MORNING!

I GOT HOME FOR THE FIRST TIME IN TWO YEARS.. JUST A FEW MINUTES AGO!
YOU...WHAT? THEN IT'S EXACTLY LIKE YOUR TELEGRAM SAID...THAT YOU'D BE HERE WITH US IN SPIRIT!

THE END

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN UNUSUAL STORIES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER ATLAS

THE WISH

THE Wilsons were a poor but proud family. They lived on the outskirts of Woodside in an old rented house that was small but spotlessly clean. Their home life was happy and harmonious, and if they lacked a store of worldly goods, nobody ever saw them without a happy smile.

Bud Wilson was honest and hard-working, but in a small town like Woodside a man's salary advanced slowly. So he and his wife, Sally, tempered their desires for more material things and concentrated on keeping their son, Bobby, content and unspoiled.

"It would be nice if we had a little more money, Bud," Sally sighed one night at the dinner table. "I don't mind living on a low-income budget, but you do need a new suit badly. And I'm sure that old wreck you drive to work will fall apart one of these days. And you have to spend so much time tinkering with it to keep it going."

"Nonsense!" Bud joshed. "They built those old cars to last. I wouldn't take one of those flashy but flimsy jobs they put out today for ten dollars—*unless they insisted!* But why worry about me? You're the prettiest piece of scenery Woodside has to offer, yet you're no candidate for the 'Best Dressed Woman of the Year' award. If I could only wish you a new wardrobe, a washing machine . . ."

"Despite the old adage," Sally interrupted him with a wistful smile, "I'm afraid that wishing *won't* make it so. It may work out that way in fairy tales, but I'm no Cinderella even if you are my Prince Charming."

"It may be just a fairy tale," Bud admitted. "But sometimes it's fun to pretend. You believe in make-believe, don't you, Bobby?"

Bobby had been listening raptly to his parents' gay patter, but now he nodded solemnly. "Sure, Daddy," he answered positively. "Anything can come true . . . if you wish hard enough."

"Nothing like a child's faith and imagination," Bud marveled. "But, Bobby, I'm afraid it's not quite true. We don't have a lucky star, and the last time I checked there was no wishing well in our front garden."

Bud paused as he noticed a sad look sweep across Bobby's face. "Well, son, I guess there's no harm in trying. Since we don't have a fairy godmother, why don't we try the next best thing."

He dug earnestly into the piece of chicken on his plate and expertly pared it to the bone while Bobby watched him with mounting interest. Then he carefully dried the bone in his napkin and held it aloft triumphantly.

"A wishbone!" he announced gaily. "Just what the doctor ordered to cure our ills. Now who wants to grab the other end? There are always at least three good wishes in every well-nourished wishbone: one for the lucky one and two for the losers to wish along with him."

"Bud, you ought to know better," Sally chided him. "Filling a boy's head with such foolishness. Next thing you know, Bobby'll be heartbroken because you gave him faith in something false. I think we've gone just as far as we should with your little joke."

"All right, Sally," Bud said with resignation. "Sometimes a little laughter goes a long way in replacing the things you haven't got. But I suppose we ought to come down to earth and forget such fantasies. Let's dispense with dreaming and clean up the dinner dishes. How's that for coming back to reality with a bang?"

Bud dropped the bone into the big platter and began to carry the empty dishes and silverware to the sink. Bobby remained at the table, staring intently at the bone in the platter. Slowly, he reached for it while darting an imploring look at his mother.

"Can't I keep it, Mom? Bobby pleaded. "It's all cleaned off, and as Daddy says, it can't cause any harm. I promise I won't annoy you with it."

Sally looked disapprovingly at the slender bone clutched in Bobby's hand and then nodded reluctantly. "Just promise me instead that you'll only consider it a toy, and I won't object."

When Bobby went to sleep that night, he was still clutching the chicken bone in one pudgy palm. He kissed his parents contentedly and was asleep almost as soon as his head touched the pillow.

"I hope his dreams aren't disturbed tonight, Bud," Sally commented as they tiptoed downstairs. "Children have such

CONTINUED BEFORE LAST STORY

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AYE, MATES, A FEARSOME SIGHT IT WAS WHENEVER THE CAPTAIN TOOK TO THE PROW OF THE SHIP WITH THAT BIG BLACK BOOK IN HIS HANDS!

THE BLACK BOOK

A STRANGE JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY!

MANY YEARS AGO IT WAS... WHEN SHIPS HAD SAILS AND RODE BEFORE THE WIND, AND SAILORS ALL LOVED THE SEA! I WAS A CAPTAIN MYSELF THOSE DAYS. AND I KNEW THEM ALL... ALL THE SHIPS AND ALL THE MEN! AND YE CAN TAKE MY WORD FOR IT WHEN I SAY...

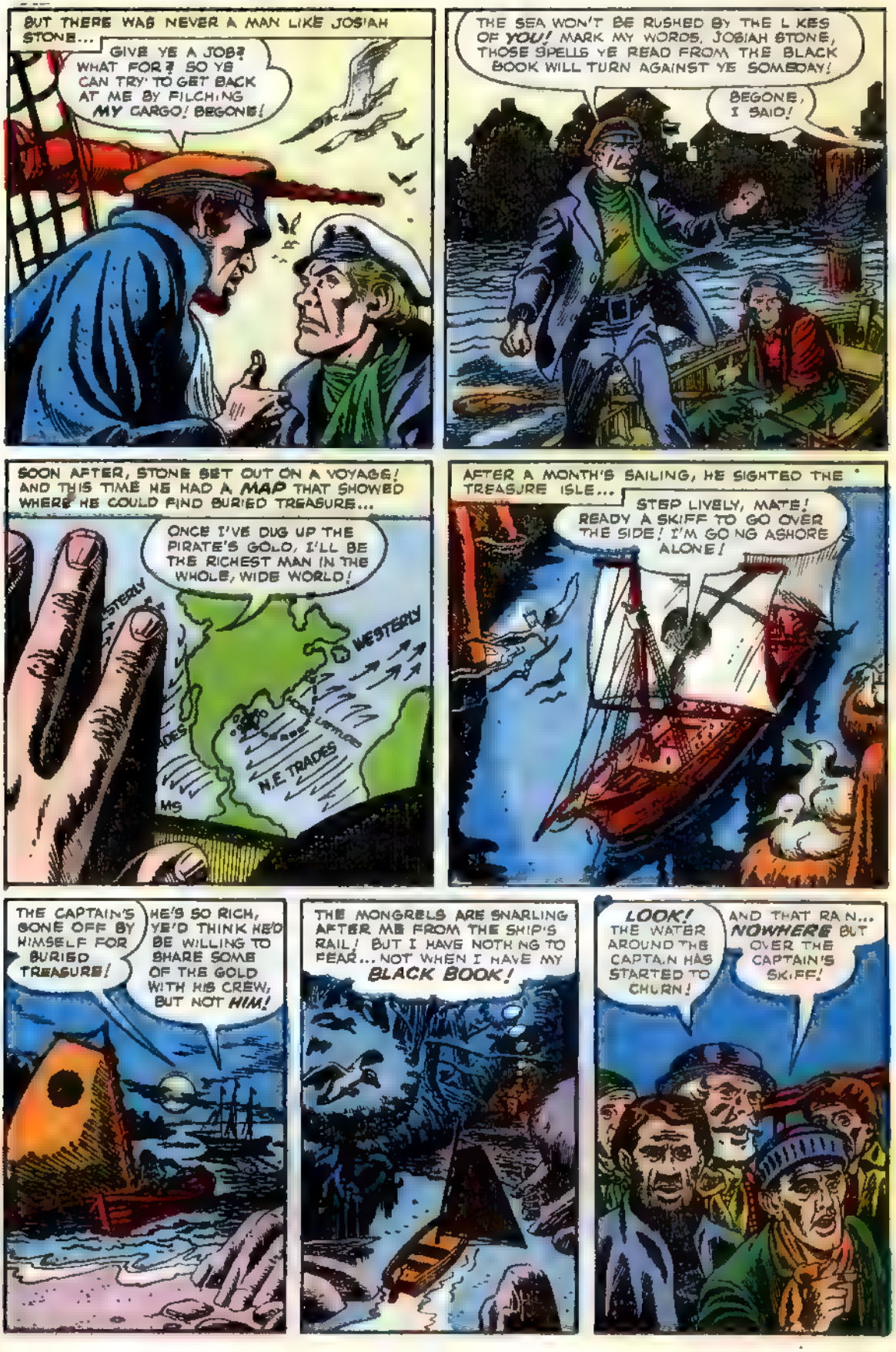
...THERE NEVER WAS A SEA-GOING MAN MORE COLD-HEARTED THAN CAPTAIN JOSIAH STONE! THERE WAS NOTHING THAT MAN WOULDN'T DO TO BEAT ANOTHER SHIP INTO PORT SO HE COULD GET A BETTER PRICE FOR HIS CARGO! NOTHING!

BUT HOW CAN YE BE SO SURE SHE *WON'T* OVERTAKE US, CAPTAIN?

BECAUSE WHEN SHE STOPPED WITH US FOR WATER AT THE LAST ISLE, I TOOK CARE OF THINGS...

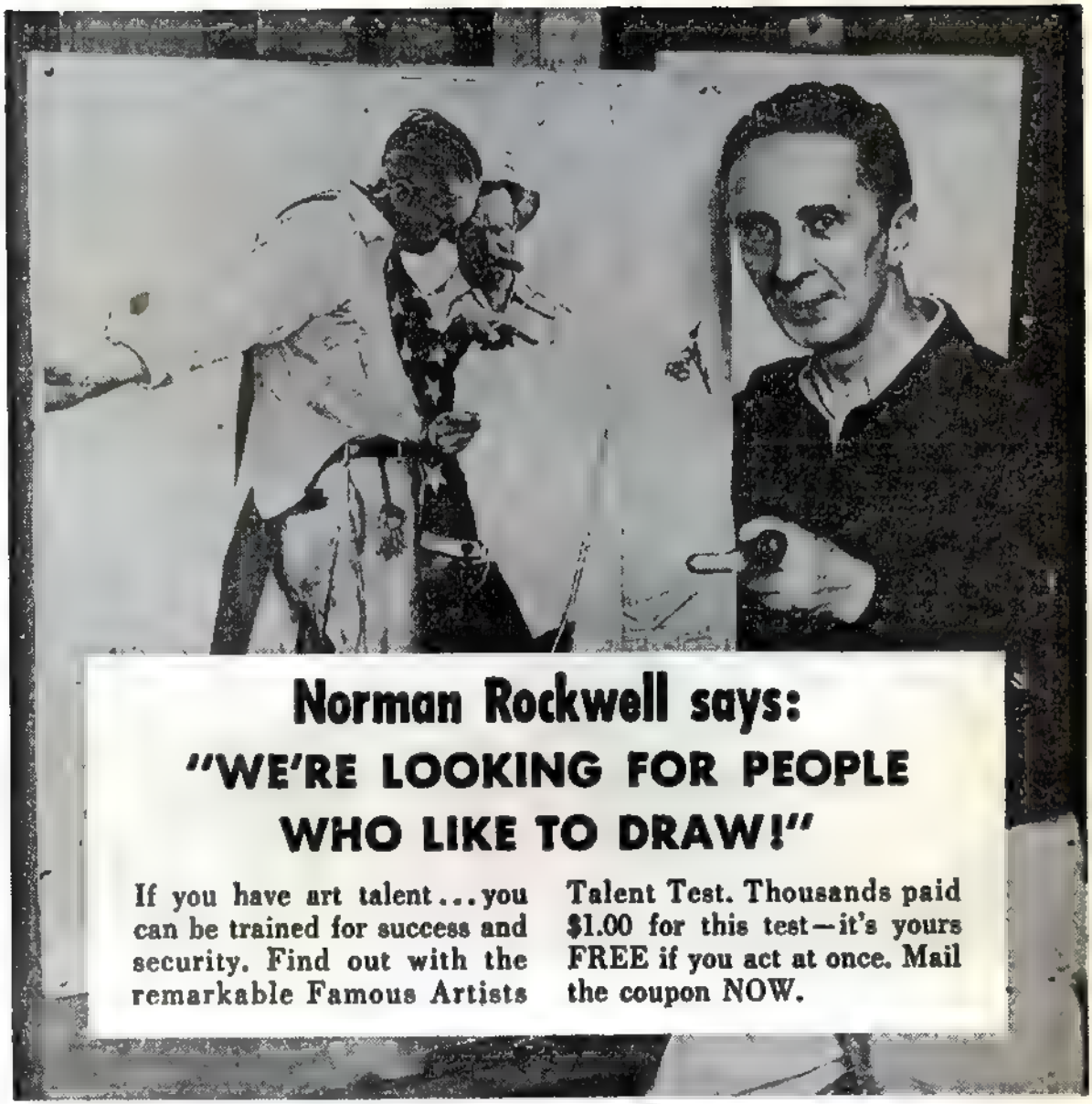
I SHANGHAIED HER OFFICERS...AND THEY'RE ALL IN IRONS BELOW!
YEARS PASSED, AND JOSIAH STONE WAS A RICH MAN NOW...BUT HIS GREED NEVER LEFT HIM...GAVE HIM NO REST...
UP THOSE SAILS, LANDLUBBERS... FASTER, I SAID!
THEN ONE DAY IN PORT, ON THE LOOKOUT FOR CHEAP TRINKETS TO USE FOR TRADING WITH NATIVES, HE WANDERED INTO AN OLD CURIO SHOP...
YOU'RE WASTING TIME, URGING ME TO BUY WHAT YE COULDN'T SELL TO OTHER FOOLS! I'LL BUY WHAT I WANT!
Dilwell's CURIO SHOP
HMMM...THIS OLD BLACK BOOK... WONDER IF I REMEMBER ANY OF THE LATIN I LEARNED AT SCHOOL? WRITTEN BY A POWERFUL MAGICIAN, IT SAYS, AND THE INCANTATIONS WILL ENABLE ONE TO...
TO CONTROL THE WEATHER...
AFTER DRIVING A HARD BARGAIN, JOSIAH STONE RAN BACK TO THE SHIP WITH THE BLACK BOOK UNDER HIS ARM! ONCE ABOARD HE LOCKED HIMSELF IN THE CABIN AND BEGAN TO READ...
NOBODY WILL EVER BEAT ME TO PORT AGAIN! NOBODY!
AND FROM THAT TIME ON, AT THE START OF EVERY VOYAGE, HE WOULD TAKE TO THE SHIP'S PROW WITH THE BLACK BOOK IN HIS HANDS... HIS VOICE HARSHLY CRYING OUT AGAINST THE WIND!

AND NO MATTER WHAT THE WEATHER HAD BEEN A MOMENT AGO, AS SOON AS HE'D FINISH CHANTING...
WIND'S RISING! SAILS ARE STARTING TO FILL!
AND THOSE WINDS THAT JOSIAH STONE HAD CALLED FROM THE FAR CORNERS OF THE EARTH, WITH THE HELP OF THE BLACK BOOK, WOULD ALWAYS BLOW HIS SHIP DIRECTLY INTO PORT!
AND SOON, JOSIAH STONE BECAME THE RICHEST CAPTAIN ON THE ATLANTIC SEABOARD! AND WHENEVER HE SIGHTED A COMPETITOR'S SHIP ON THE HORIZON...
I'LL TEACH HIM NOT TO TRY BEATING ME INTO PORT!
AND WHEN HE READ FROM THE BLACK BOOK, HIS VOICE RUMBLED LIKE THUNDER...AND THE WINDS THAT CAME RUSHING IN ANSWER TO HIS CALL, WERE STORM WINDS, DIRECTLY IN THE PATH OF THE COMPETITOR'S SHIP...
LOWER THE BOATS! HURRY!
IT'S THE TRUTH, EVERY WORD OF IT! I KNOW BECAUSE I WAS SKIPPER OF ONE OF THOSE SHIPS THAT TOOK THE LONG DIVE TO DAVY JONES'S LOCKER, AFTER BEING POUNDED BY ONE OF JOSIAH STONE'S STORMS!
AND WHEN THE LOST CARGO DRAINED EVERY CENT FROM MY POCKETS, I THOUGHT IT ONLY FAIR TO GO TO SEE JOSIAH STONE THE NEXT TIME HE CAME INTO PORT...
I'LL ASK HIM FOR A JOB AS MATE ON ONE OF HIS SHIPS...


BUT THERE WAS NEVER A MAN LIKE JOSIAH STONE...
GIVE YE A JOB? WHAT FOR? SO YE CAN TRY TO GET BACK AT ME BY PILCHING MY CARGO! BEGONE!
THE SEA WON'T BE RUSHED BY THE LIKES OF YOU! MARK MY WORDS, JOSIAH STONE, THOSE SPELLS YE READ FROM THE BLACK BOOK WILL TURN AGAINST YE SOMEDAY!
BEGONE, I SAID!
SOON AFTER, STONE SET OUT ON A VOYAGE! AND THIS TIME HE HAD A MAP THAT SHOWED WHERE HE COULD FIND BURIED TREASURE...
ONCE I'VE DUG UP THE PIRATE'S GOLD, I'LL BE THE RICHEST MAN IN THE WHOLE, WIDE WORLD!
WESTERLY
WESTERLY
N.E. TRADES
AFTER A MONTH'S SAILING, HE SIGHTED THE TREASURE ISLE...
STEP LIVELY, MATE! READY A SKIFF TO GO OVER THE SIDE! I'M GOING ASHORE ALONE!
THE CAPTAIN'S GONE OFF BY HIMSELF FOR BURIED TREASURE!
HE'S SO RICH, YE'D THINK HE'D BE WILLING TO SHARE SOME OF THE GOLD WITH HIS CREW, BUT NOT HIM!
THE MONGRELS ARE SNARLING AFTER ME FROM THE SHIP'S RAIL! BUT I HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR... NOT WHEN I HAVE MY BLACK BOOK!
LOOK! THE WATER AROUND THE CAPTAIN HAS STARTED TO CHURN!
AND THAT RAN... NOWHERE BUT OVER THE CAPTAIN'S SKIFF!

IT WAS A STRANGE SORT OF STORM... SO SMALL AND AIMED SO SQUARELY AT THE SKIFF! BUT JOSIAH STONE WAS STILL SMILING...
THESE WATERS WILL SOON BE SMOOTH! AS SOON AS I READ THE PROPER PASSAGE, THEY'LL BE SMOOTH AS GLASS!
THE CAPTAIN'S OPENING THE BLACK BOOK!
LISTEN!
THEY COULD BARELY HEAR HIS VOICE OVER THE SHRIEKING WIND...
STOP, WIND! STOP, I SAY! LEAVE THE WATER CALM AND SMOOTH, MAKE IT LIKE A SEA OF GLASS!
THEY HEARD HIM CALL OUT ONCE MORE! THEN HE WAS ANSWERED BY THE LOUDEST CLAP OF THUNDER EVER HEARD ON LAND OR SEA! AND A THICK BLACK CLOUD LIKE A KNOTTED FIST HID HIM FROM SIGHT...
...SEA OF GLASS...OF GLASS!
AND WHEN THE CLOUD LIFTED, CAPTAIN, BLACK BOOK AND SKIFF VANISHED... NEVER TO BE SEEN AGAIN!
WHAT HAPPENED TO JOSIAH STONE? CAN'T SAY FOR SURE! BUT IF YE'LL FOLLOW ME, I'LL SHOW YE SOMETHING I PICKED UP IN SOME CURIO SHOP ONE DAY! NOW MIND YE, I'M NOT SAYING...
..THIS IS HIM! BUT DO YE REMEMBER THE LAST SPELL HE READ FROM THE BLACK BOOK? HE WAS ASKIN' TO BE LEFT IN A SEA OF GLASS!
5

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN UNUSUAL STORIES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER ATLAS



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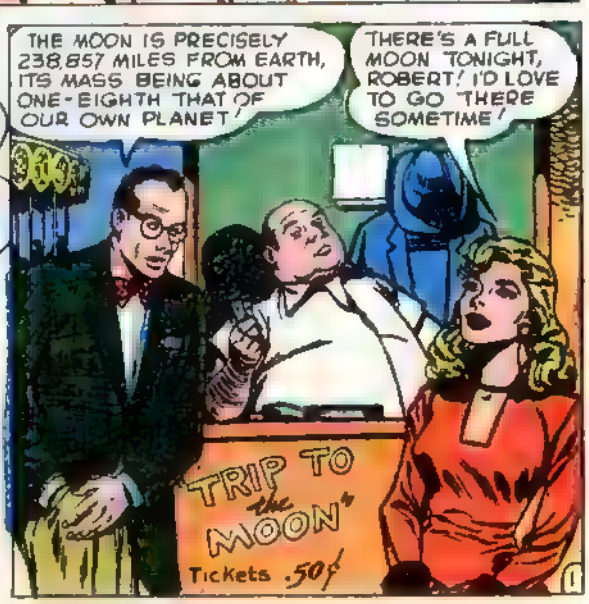
PROFESSOR ROBERT EMORY WAS A VAST STOREHOUSE OF KNOWLEDGE, BUT HE COULD NOT RECOGNIZE A STRANGE SECRET OF THE UNIVERSE WHEN IT WAS REVEALED TO HIM THAT EVENING AT HAPPYTIME AMUSEMENT PARK!

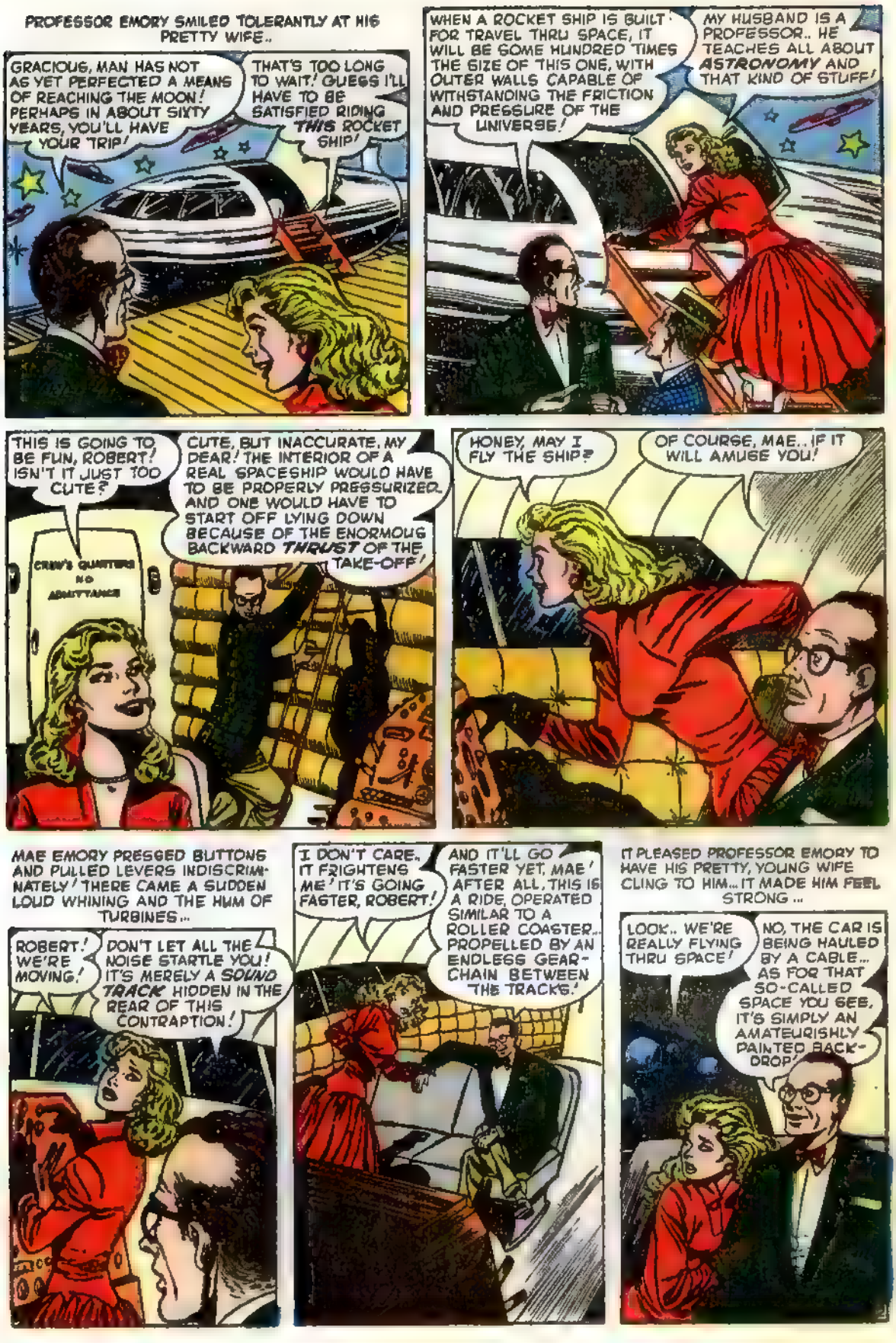
MR. KNOW-IT-ALL

YOU SEE, MAE, THE MIRRORS ARE WARPED IN VARIOUS WAYS, REFRACTING LIGHT BACK TO OUR EYES FROM DIVERSE DIRECTIONS, RATHER THAN DIRECTLY, AS WITH ORDINARY REFLECTORS, SO THAT OUR LIKENESSES APPEAR DISTORTED! DO YOU UNDERSTAND, MY DEAR?
OH, ROBERT, THE WAY YOU EXPLAIN THINGS IS SO DEEP IT GOES RIGHT OVER MY HEAD! BUT DON'T I LOOK SIMPLY A SCREAM!
H-171
JOHN FORTE

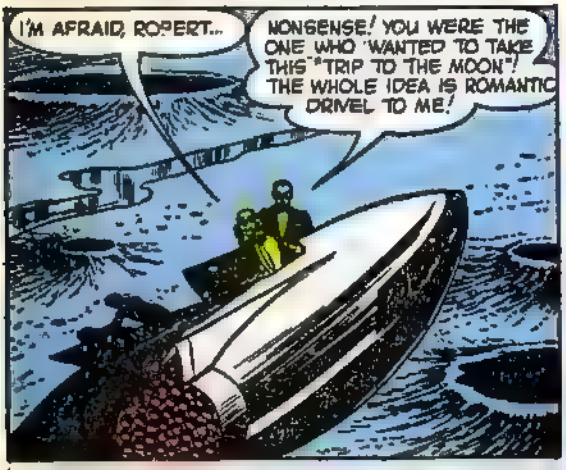
PROFESSOR EMORY AND HIS WIFE WERE ANXIOUS TO TAKE IN OTHER AMUSEMENTS, AND SO THEY MOVED ON FROM THE HALL OF MIRRORS...

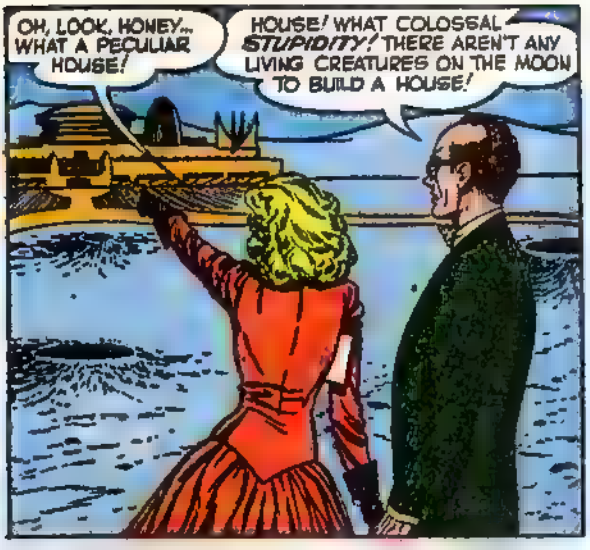
I'D LOVE TO GO ON THAT RIDE, ROBERT! I'LL BET IT'S REAL FUN!
YOU MEAN THE "TRIP TO THE MOON" CONCESSION? AH, YES, THAT MAY PROVE INTERESTING, IF ONLY TO DEMONSTRATE THE AVERAGE MAN'S IGNORANCE OF FACTS CONCERNING THAT LUNAR BODY!
HALL of MIRRORS
WHIP


THE MOON IS PRECISELY 238,857 MILES FROM EARTH, ITS MASS BEING ABOUT ONE-EIGHTH THAT OF OUR OWN PLANET!
THERE'S A FULL MOON TONIGHT, ROBERT! I'D LOVE TO GO THERE SOMETIME!
TRIP TO the MOON
Tickets .50¢

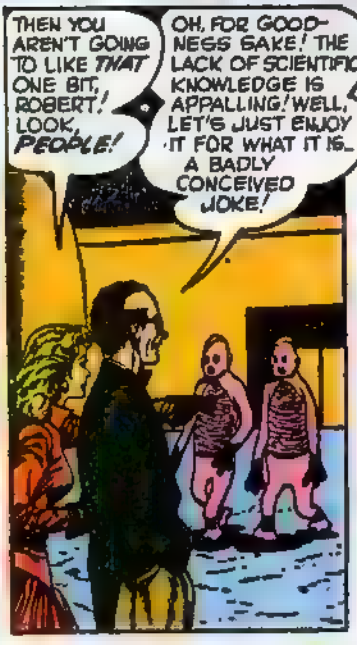

PROFESSOR EMORY SMILED TOLERANTLY AT HIS PRETTY WIFE..
GRACIOUS, MAN HAS NOT AS YET PERFECTED A MEANS OF REACHING THE MOON! PERHAPS IN ABOUT SIXTY YEARS, YOU'LL HAVE YOUR TRIP!
THAT'S TOO LONG TO WAIT! GUESS I'LL HAVE TO BE SATISFIED RIDING THIS ROCKET SHIP!
WHEN A ROCKET SHIP IS BUILT FOR TRAVEL THRU SPACE, IT WILL BE SOME HUNDRED TIMES THE SIZE OF THIS ONE, WITH OUTER WALLS CAPABLE OF WITHSTANDING THE FRICTION AND PRESSURE OF THE UNIVERSE!
MY HUSBAND IS A PROFESSOR.. HE TEACHES ALL ABOUT ASTRONOMY AND THAT KIND OF STUFF!
THIS IS GOING TO BE FUN, ROBERT! ISN'T IT JUST TOO CUTE?
CREW'S QUARTERS NO ADMITTANCE
CUTE, BUT INACCURATE, MY DEAR! THE INTERIOR OF A REAL SPACESHIP WOULD HAVE TO BE PROPERLY PRESSURIZED. AND ONE WOULD HAVE TO START OFF LYING DOWN BECAUSE OF THE ENORMOUS BACKWARD THRUST OF THE TAKE-OFF!
HONEY, MAY I FLY THE SHIP?
OF COURSE, MAE.. IF IT WILL AMUSE YOU!
MAE EMORY PRESSED BUTTONS AND PULLED LEVERS INDISCRIMINATELY! THERE CAME A SUDDEN LOUD WHINING AND THE HUM OF TURBINES...
ROBERT! WE'RE MOVING!
DON'T LET ALL THE NOISE STARTLE YOU! IT'S MERELY A SOUND TRACK HIDDEN IN THE REAR OF THIS CONTRAPTION!
I DON'T CARE.. IT FRIGHTENS ME! IT'S GOING FASTER, ROBERT!
AND IT'LL GO FASTER YET, MAE! AFTER ALL, THIS IS A RIDE, OPERATED SIMILAR TO A ROLLER COASTER.. PROPELLED BY AN ENDLESS GEAR-CHAIN BETWEEN THE TRACKS.
IT PLEASED PROFESSOR EMORY TO HAVE HIS PRETTY, YOUNG WIFE CLING TO HIM... IT MADE HIM FEEL STRONG ...
LOOK.. WE'RE REALLY FLYING THRU SPACE!
NO, THE CAR IS BEING HAULED BY A CABLE... AS FOR THAT SO-CALLED SPACE YOU SEE, IT'S SIMPLY AN AMATEURISHLY PAINTED BACK-DROP!

PROFESSOR EMORY WAS BECOMING QUITE BORED WITH THE LENGTHY RIDE WHEN THE MOON FINALLY LOOMED UP BEFORE THEM! THE SHIP LANDED WITH A BUMP..

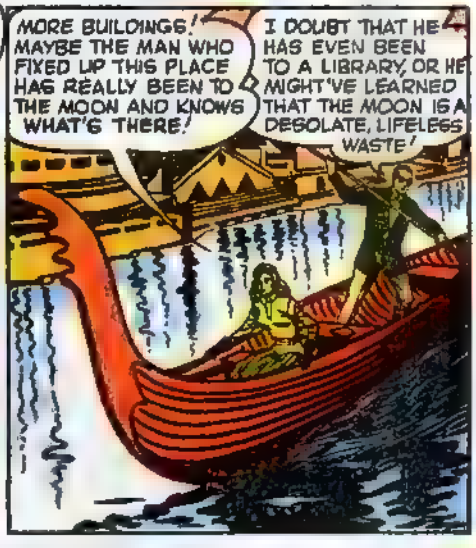



OH, LOOK, HONEY... WHAT A PECULIAR HOUSE!
HOUSE! WHAT COLOSSAL STUPIDITY! THERE AREN'T ANY LIVING CREATURES ON THE MOON TO BUILD A HOUSE!

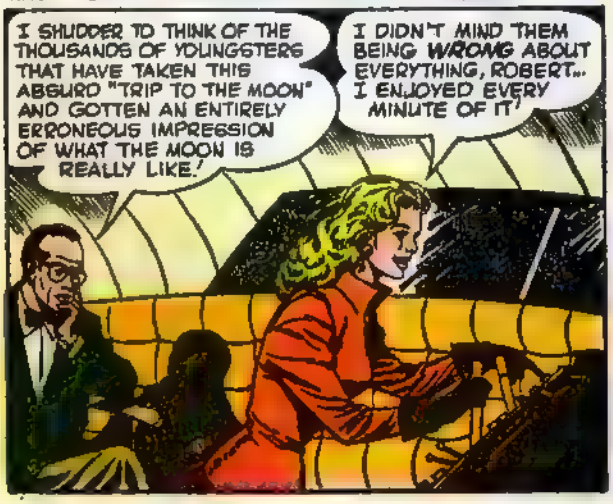
NO PEOPLE?
OF COURSE NOT! YOU'D THINK THAT ANYONE WHO HAD GONE TO THE TROUBLE OF CONSTRUCTING THIS EXHIBIT WOULD HAVE LOOKED UP THE FACTS!

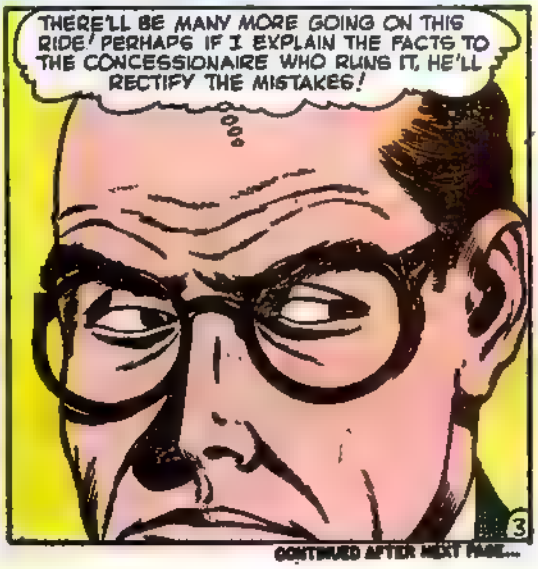

THEN YOU AREN'T GOING TO LIKE THAT ONE BIT, ROBERT! LOOK, PEOPLE!
OH, FOR GOODNESS SAKE! THE LACK OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE IS APPALLING! WELL, LET'S JUST ENJOY IT FOR WHAT IT IS— A BADLY CONCEIVED JOKE!

DESPITE HIS COMPLAINTS, PROFESSOR EMORY KNEW HE WAS GETTING HIS FIFTY CENTS WORTH AS HE AND MAE DRIFTED ALONG THE CANALS...


MORE BUILDINGS! MAYBE THE MAN WHO FIXED UP THIS PLACE HAS REALLY BEEN TO THE MOON AND KNOWS WHAT'S THERE!
I DOUBT THAT HE HAS EVEN BEEN TO A LIBRARY, OR HE MIGHT'VE LEARNED THAT THE MOON IS A DESOLATE, LIFELESS WASTE!

WHEN THEY RETURNED TO THE SHIP, PROFESSOR EMORY WAG GREATLY DISTURBED BY WHAT HE HAD SEEN...


I SHUDDER TO THINK OF THE THOUSANDS OF YOUNGSTERS THAT HAVE TAKEN THIS ABSURD "TRIP TO THE MOON" AND GOTTEN AN ENTIRELY ERRONEOUS IMPRESSION OF WHAT THE MOON IS REALLY LIKE!
I DIDN'T MIND THEM BEING WRONG ABOUT EVERYTHING, ROBERT... I ENJOYED EVERY MINUTE OF IT!


THERE'LL BE MANY MORE GOING ON THIS RIDE! PERHAPS IF I EXPLAIN THE FACTS TO THE CONCESSIONAIRE WHO RUNS IT, HE'LL RECTIFY THE MISTAKES!
3

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

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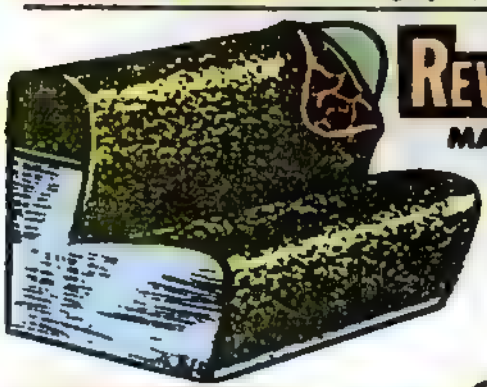

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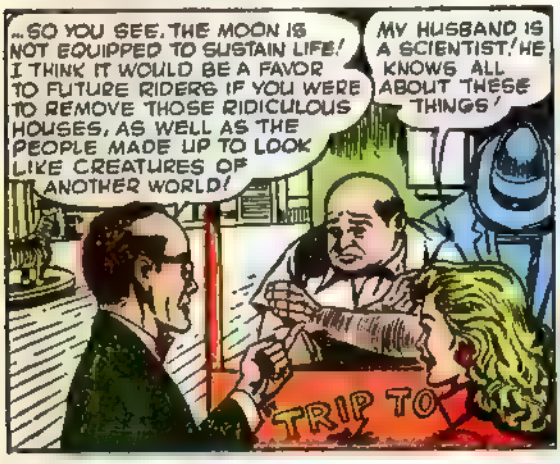
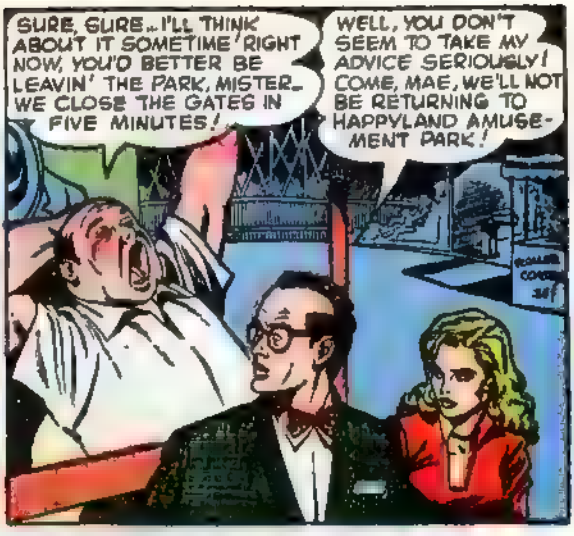
THE MOMENT THE ROCKET SHIP RETURNED TO THE STARTING POINT, PROFESSOR EMORY WENT DIRECTLY TO THE PROPRIETOR...


...SO YOU SEE, THE MOON IS NOT EQUIPPED TO SUSTAIN LIFE! I THINK IT WOULD BE A FAVOR TO FUTURE RIDERS IF YOU WERE TO REMOVE THOSE RIDICULOUS HOUSES, AS WELL AS THE PEOPLE MADE UP TO LOOK LIKE CREATURES OF ANOTHER WORLD!
MY HUSBAND IS A SCIENTIST! HE KNOWS ALL ABOUT THESE THINGS!
TRIP TO


SURE, SURE... I'LL THINK ABOUT IT SOMETIME! RIGHT NOW, YOU'D BETTER BE LEAVIN' THE PARK, MISTER... WE CLOSE THE GATES IN FIVE MINUTES!
WELL, YOU DON'T SEEM TO TAKE MY ADVICE SERIOUSLY! COME, MAE, WE'LL NOT BE RETURNING TO HAPPYLAND AMUSEMENT PARK!

SOON, THE AMUSEMENT PARK WAS WITHOUT LIGHT, SAVE THAT FURNISHED BY THE FULL MOON ABOVE! IT WAS THEN THAT TWO STOWAWAYS EMERGED FROM THE ROCKET SHIP...

THE MOON CREATURES SILENTLY PADDED AFTER THEIR HOST...

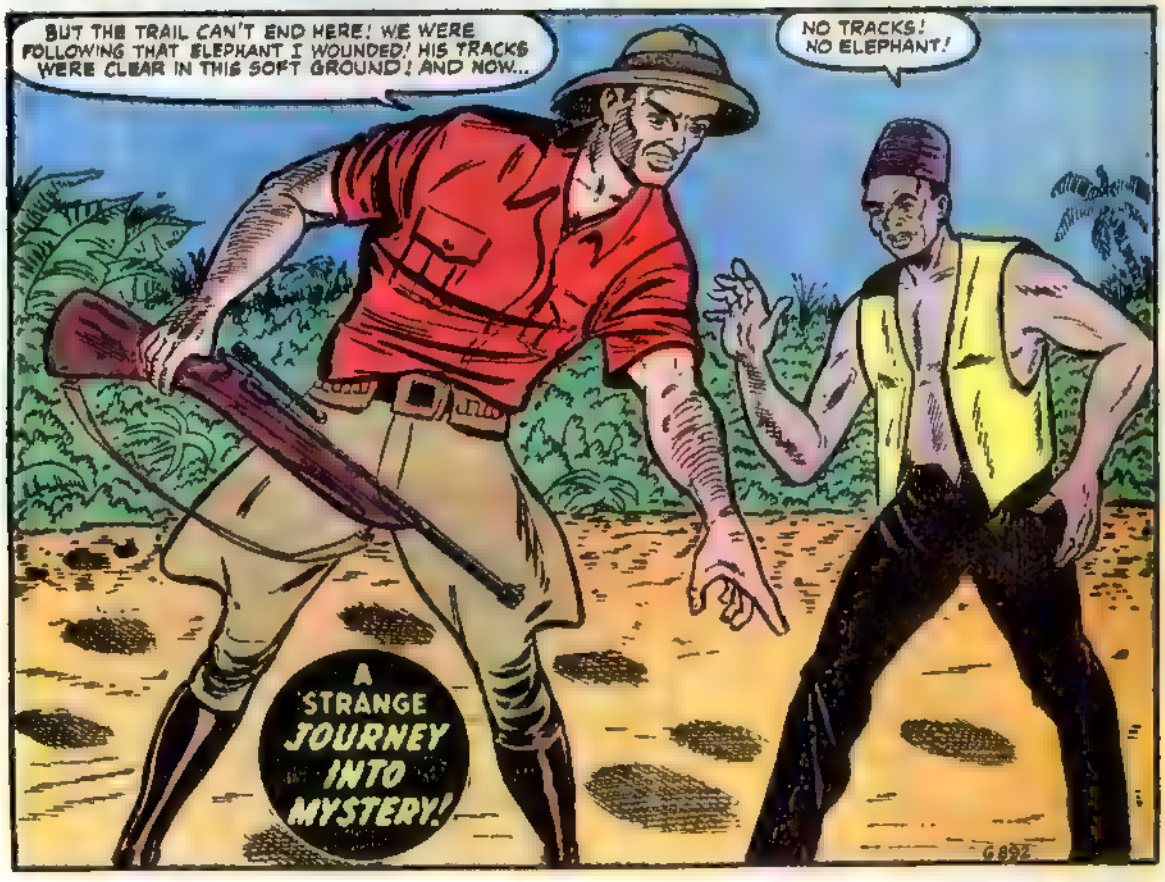
AND WHEN THE NEWCOMERS ENTERED THE HALL OF MIRRORS, THEY WERE JOYFULLY GREETED...

YOU TWO WILL WORK WITH THE REST OF THESE MOON FOLK...YOU MAKE A GREAT ATTRACTION POSING AS REFLECTIONS IN THIS HALL OF MIRRORS! HA! I HAVE TO LAUGH AT THAT SMART ALECK PROFESSOR, SAYIN' THERE ARE NO PEOPLE ON THE MOON!
OH, BUT THE PROFESSOR IS RIGHT... NOW! YOU SEE, WE WERE THE LAST TWO LEFT UP THERE ON THE MOON!
4

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN UNUSUAL STORIES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER ATLAS

WHERE DO ELEPHANTS GO WHEN THEY DIE? EVEN THE BUSH NATIVES DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT ONE! AND WHEN ROGER COLTON TRIED TO TRACK DOWN A DYING ELEPHANT, HE FOUND HIS LUMBERING QUARRY HAD SUDDENLY VANISHED...

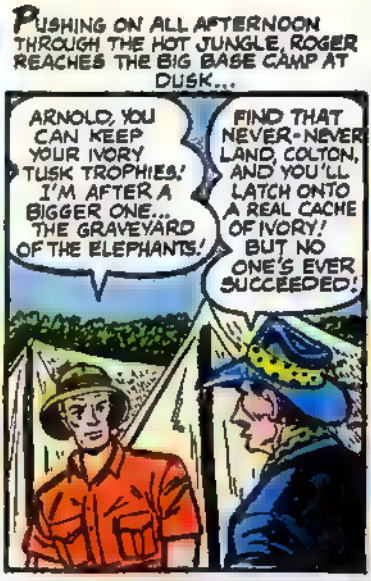
INTO THIN AIR!

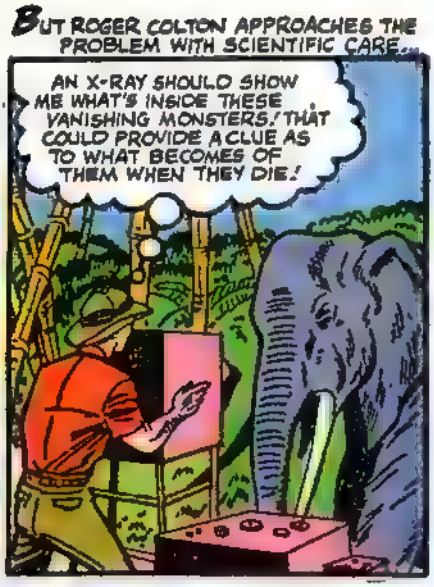

BUT THE TRAIL CAN'T END HERE! WE WERE FOLLOWING THAT ELEPHANT I WOUNDED! HIS TRACKS WERE CLEAR IN THIS SOFT GROUND! AND NOW...
NO TRACKS! NO ELEPHANT!
A STRANGE JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY!

EVEN I LEAVE A MARK IN THIS WET GROUND! HOW COULD A COUPLE OF TONS OF ELEPHANT GO ON WITHOUT LEAVING A MARK?
BUT GROUND SHOW HIM NOT GO ON!

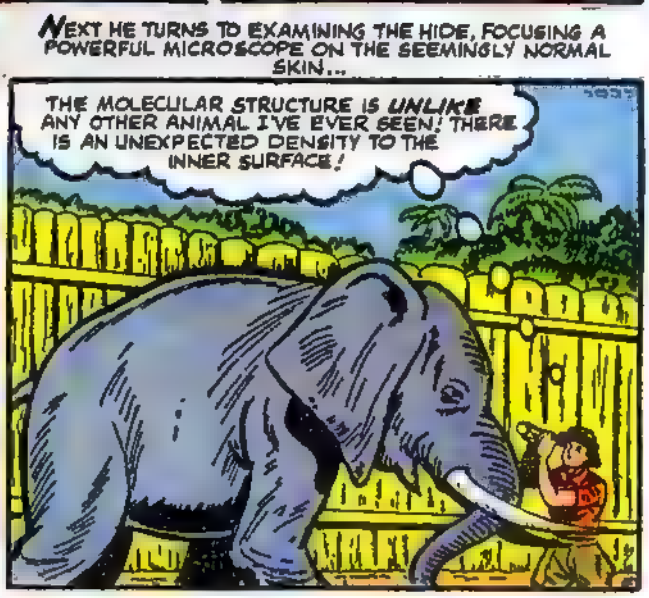
THEN WHERE DID THAT WOUNDED BULL GO?
YOUR SHOT HIT RIGHT PLACE! HIM NOT HAVE LONG TO LIVE. START JOURNEY TO WHERE ELEPHANTS ALL GO WHEN DIE! BUT WHERE THAT PLACE IS, NOT EVEN WISEST MAN KNOW!

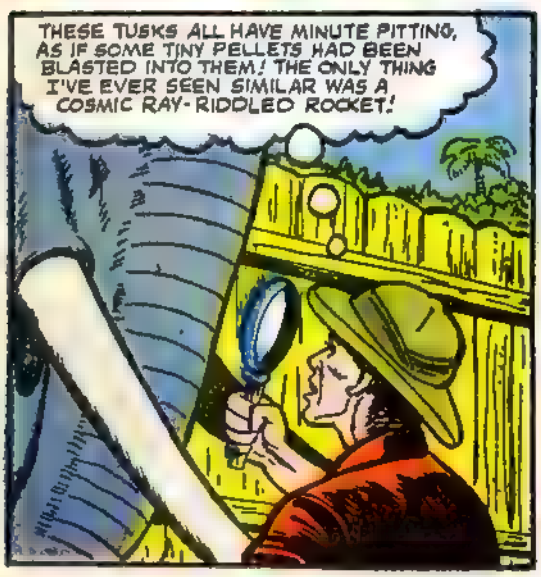
WELL, ALL I KNOW IS, AN ANIMAL THE SIZE OF AN ELEPHANT CAN'T VANISH INTO THIN AIR! AND BEFORE I'M THROUGH POKING AROUND THE JUNGLE HERE, I'LL FIND WHERE THEY GO WHEN THEY DIE!

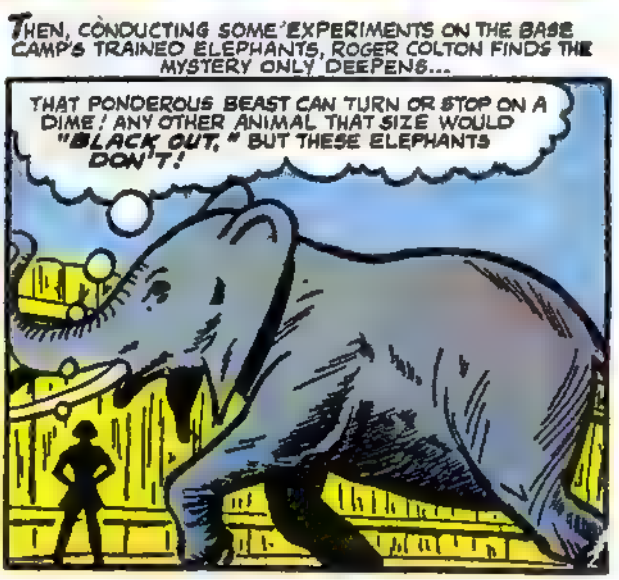

PUSHING ON ALL AFTERNOON THROUGH THE HOT JUNGLE, ROGER REACHES THE BIG BASE CAMP AT DUSK...
ARNOLD, YOU CAN KEEP YOUR IVORY TUSK TROPHIES! I'M AFTER A BIGGER ONE... THE GRAVEYARD OF THE ELEPHANTS!
FIND THAT NEVER-NEVER LAND, COLTON, AND YOU'LL LATCH ONTO A REAL CACHE OF IVORY! BUT NO ONE'S EVER SUCCEEDED!


BUT ROGER COLTON APPROACHES THE PROBLEM WITH SCIENTIFIC CARE...
AN X-RAY SHOULD SHOW ME WHAT'S INSIDE THESE VANISHING MONSTERS! THAT COULD PROVIDE A CLUE AS TO WHAT BECOMES OF THEM WHEN THEY DIE!

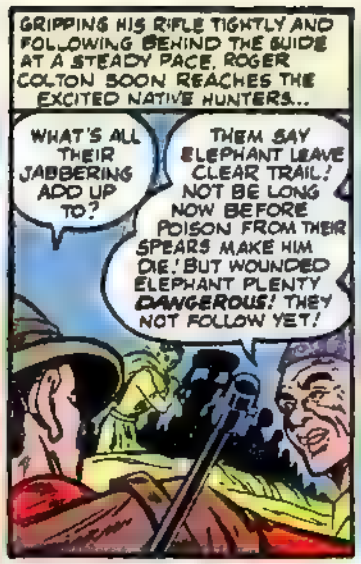
EXCITEDLY, ROGER COLTON TAKES THE STILL WET X-RAYS FROM THE DEVELOPING TANK AND GAPES INCREDULOUSLY AT THE STRANGE REVELATION...
THE ELEPHANT HAS TWO DISTINCT BREATHING SYSTEMS! AND ONE OF THEM COULD KEEP HIM GOING WITHOUT OXYGEN!


NEXT HE TURNS TO EXAMINING THE HIDE, FOCUSING A POWERFUL MICROSCOPE ON THE SEEMINGLY NORMAL SKIN...
THE MOLECULAR STRUCTURE IS UNLIKE ANY OTHER ANIMAL I'VE EVER SEEN! THERE IS AN UNEXPECTED DENSITY TO THE INNER SURFACE!

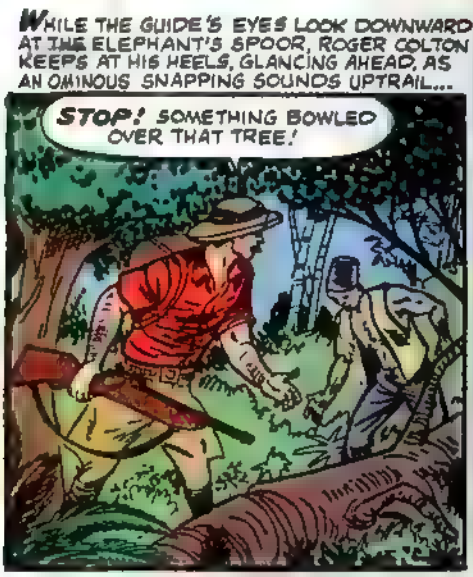

THESE TUSKS ALL HAVE MINUTE PITTING, AS IF SOME TINY PELLETS HAD BEEN BLASTED INTO THEM! THE ONLY THING I'VE EVER SEEN SIMILAR WAS A COSMIC RAY-RIDDLED ROCKET!

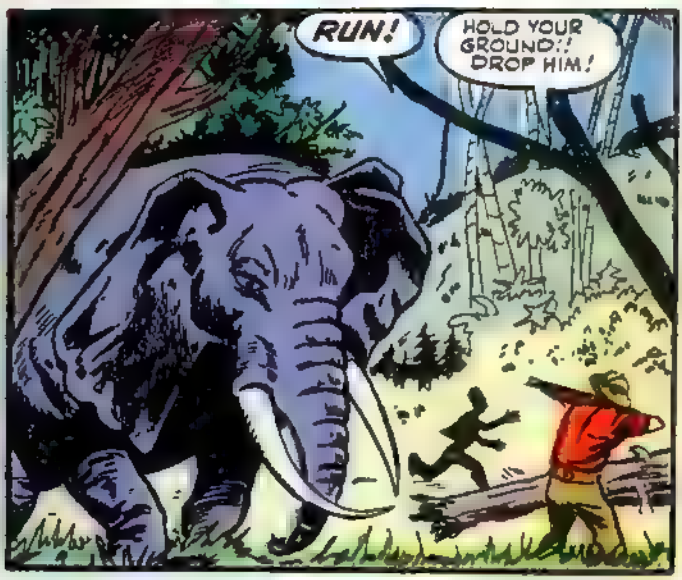

THEN, CONDUCTING SOME EXPERIMENTS ON THE BASE CAMP'S TRAINED ELEPHANTS, ROGER COLTON FINDS THE MYSTERY ONLY DEEPENS...
THAT PONDEROUS BEAST CAN TURN OR STOP ON A DIME! ANY OTHER ANIMAL THAT SIZE WOULD "BLACK OUT," BUT THESE ELEPHANTS DON'T!

MR. COLTON! RUNNER COME FROM JUNGLE! HIM SAY TRIBESMEN WOUND ELEPHANT BADLY! HIM DIE SOON...EASY TO TRAIL!
MAYBE HE'LL GU DE US TO THE ELEPHANTS' GRAVEYARD! GET MY GEAR!

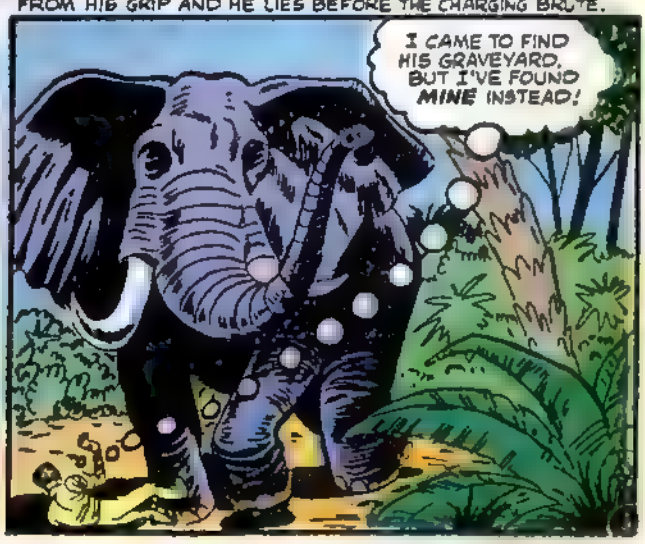

GRIPPING HIS RIFLE TIGHTLY AND FOLLOWING BEHIND THE GUIDE AT A STEADY PACE, ROGER COLTON SOON REACHES THE EXCITED NATIVE HUNTERS...
WHAT'S ALL THEIR JABBERING ADD UP TO?
THEM SAY ELEPHANT LEAVE CLEAR TRAIL! NOT BE LONG NOW BEFORE POISON FROM THEIR SPEARS MAKE HIM DIE! BUT WOUNDED ELEPHANT PLENTY DANGEROUS! THEY NOT FOLLOW YET!

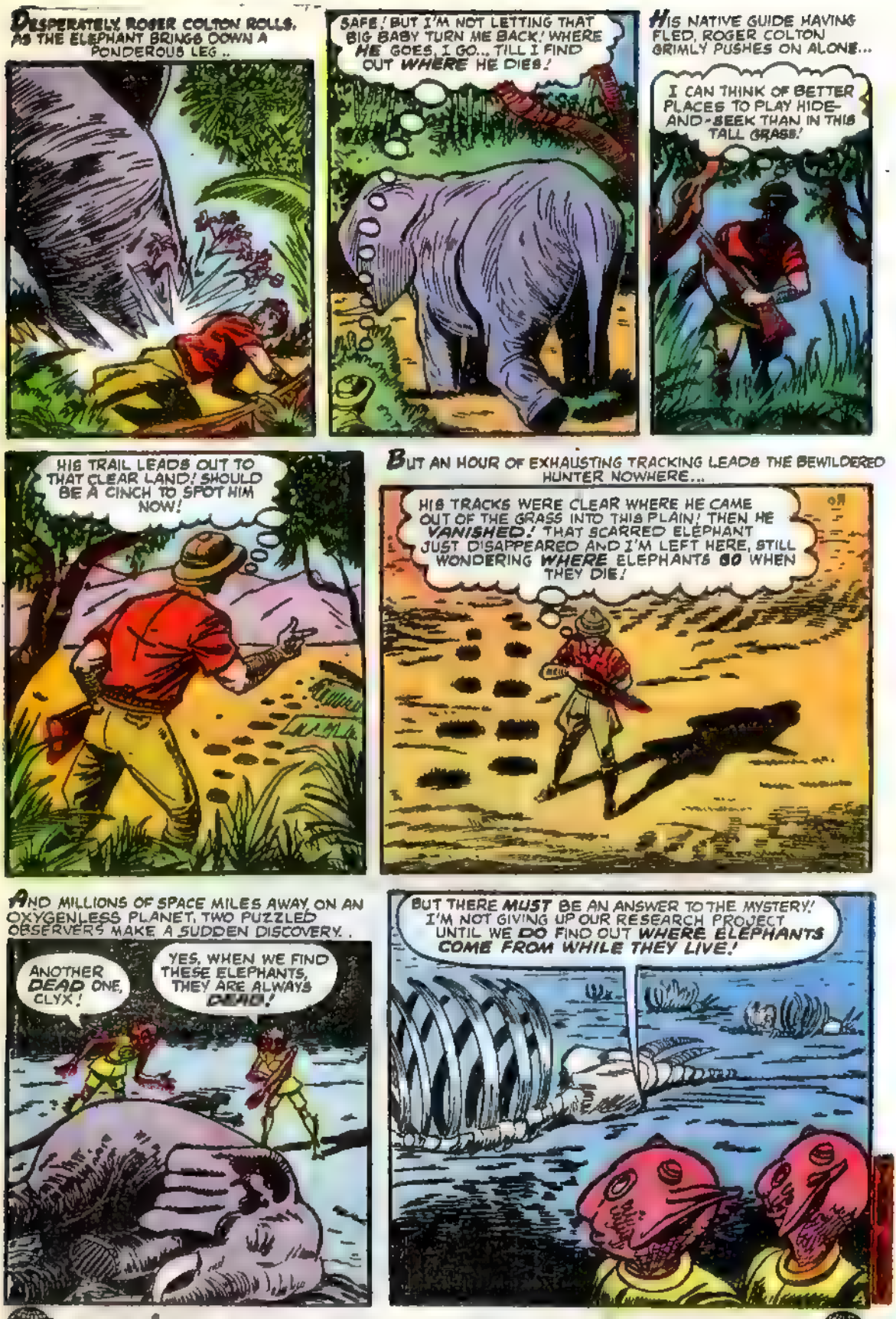
I'LL TAKE ANY RISK TO SOLVE THIS PUZZLE!
TRAIL EASY TO FOLLOW! BE READY TO FIRE FAST! WOUNDED ELEPHANT OFTEN AMBUSH THOSE WHO FOLLOW!


WHILE THE GUIDE'S EYES LOOK DOWNWARD AT THE ELEPHANT'S SPOOR, ROGER COLTON KEEPS AT HIS HEELS, GLANCING AHEAD, AS AN OMINOUS SNAPPING SOUNDS UPTRAIL...
STOP! SOMETHING BOWLED OVER THAT TREE!


RUN!
HOLD YOUR GROUND!! DROP HIM!

BUT AS ROGER COLTON THROWS HIS RIFLE UP TO HIS SHOULDER TO AIM, A CRASHING TREE LIMB CATCHES HIM HURLING HIM OFF BALANCE.


AS HIS BACK STRIKES THE GROUND, THE RIFLE IS JERKED FROM HIS GRIP AND HE LIES BEFORE THE CHARGING BRUTE.
I CAME TO FIND HIS GRAVEYARD, BUT I'VE FOUND MINE INSTEAD!


DESPERATELY ROGER COLTON ROLLS, AS THE ELEPHANT BRINGS DOWN A PONDEROUS LEG..
SAFE! BUT I'M NOT LETTING THAT BIG BABY TURN ME BACK! WHERE HE GOES, I GO... TILL I FIND OUT WHERE HE DIES!
HIS NATIVE GUIDE HAVING FLED, ROGER COLTON GRIMLY PUSHES ON ALONE...
I CAN THINK OF BETTER PLACES TO PLAY HIDE-AND-SEEK THAN IN THIS TALL GRASS!
HIS TRAIL LEADS OUT TO THAT CLEAR LAND! SHOULD BE A CINCH TO SPOT HIM NOW!
BUT AN HOUR OF EXHAUSTING TRACKING LEADS THE BEWILDERED HUNTER NOWHERE...
HIS TRACKS WERE CLEAR WHERE HE CAME OUT OF THE GRASS INTO THIS PLAIN! THEN HE VANISHED! THAT SCARRED ELEPHANT JUST DISAPPEARED AND I'M LEFT HERE, STILL WONDERING WHERE ELEPHANTS GO WHEN THEY DIE!
AND MILLIONS OF SPACE MILES AWAY ON AN OXYGENLESS PLANET, TWO PUZZLED OBSERVERS MAKE A SUDDEN DISCOVERY..
ANOTHER DEAD ONE, CLYX!
YES, WHEN WE FIND THESE ELEPHANTS, THEY ARE ALWAYS DEAD!
BUT THERE MUST BE AN ANSWER TO THE MYSTERY! I'M NOT GIVING UP OUR RESEARCH PROJECT UNTIL WE DO FIND OUT WHERE ELEPHANTS COME FROM WHILE THEY LIVE!

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN UNUSUAL STORIES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER ATLAS

LITTLE ROCKET RADIO

★ NO TUBES
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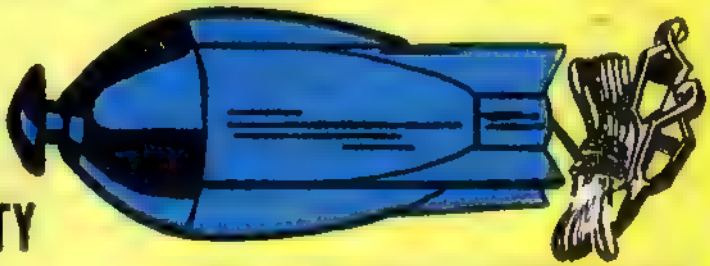
★ NO ELECTRICITY



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...CONTINUED

active imaginations that it's hard for them to distinguish between reality and their private dream world."

"Well, maybe I haven't been facing reality myself," Bud replied. "We've been just getting by, and neither of us has bothered to buy any of the things we really need. Maybe we ought to stop off at the department store tomorrow and pick up a new wardrobe for both of us. And you know how badly you need a washing machine . . ."

"Bud Wilson, have you suddenly gone completely mad?" Sally broke in. "And what do you propose to pay the store with? We have barely enough now to meet all our bills."

"Well, you know that I have a small bonus coming soon," Bud answered, "and in the meantime, we could charge the things we buy. Our credit is good. We've never defaulted on a payment."

"Our credit is good because we've never bought before unless we had the money to pay for our purchases," Sally said firmly. "And we're not going to damage our reputation by going into debt. Let's get along on what we have. We'll be far happier that way."

The following week, Bud was surprised to see Sally standing at the door when he returned from work. She regarded him sternly and then surprised him further by brushing away his welcoming kiss.

"What's wrong, Sally?" Bud asked in bewilderment.

"I thought you agreed *not* to make any purchases until we had the money to pay for them," she stated in a steely voice.

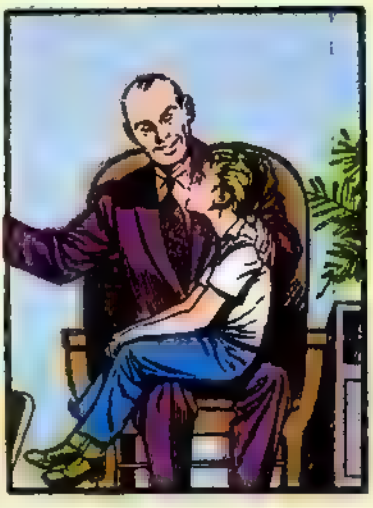
"I didn't really agree with you, but I certainly have honored your request. But what are you angry at?"

"I don't see why you're pretending, Bud, when you've already gone and done it. You probably slipped into the house and arranged everything when I was out this afternoon. You knew I was going shopping."

"Sally, I really *don't* know what you're talking about. I was at work all afternoon, and I haven't arranged anything," Bud protested.

"Then how can you explain the new washing machine in the basement?" Sally persisted. "And who filled our closets with brand new clothes for both of us. I suppose it was the Man in the Moon!"

"Oh, no, Mommy," Bobby piped up suddenly. "It was the



Man in the Wishbone. And it was I who arranged it while you were both gone. I wanted to surprise you. But you don't seem surprised or happy."

"You mean . . . we *really* have a new washing machine and a new wardrobe," Bud began.

"You mean . . . you really *didn't* have anything to do with this," Sally stammered.

Bobby's parents stared at each other dumbly and then wheeled slowly to face their son. It was Bud who finally broke the silence.

"Just what did the Man in the Wishbone say, Bobby?" he quavered.

"Exactly what you said, Daddy," Bobby answered innocently. "He said I could make three wishes and that's all. I've used up two of them to get you and Mommy a new wardrobe and a washing machine, but I haven't decided what to wish for next."

The Wilsons were galvanized into action. Bobby was hustled off to bed. His temperature was normal, but his parents were positive he was quite delirious.

"I warned you, Bud, not to excite him with wild stories," Sally accused when they got downstairs. "I don't know how those things got here if you didn't order them, but I'm dead-sure that Bobby had nothing to do with it."

When the Wilsons retired that night, they were sorely troubled. They were even more disturbed when they awoke the next morning. All their brand-new finery had disappeared from their closet when they prepared to dress. The washing machine, too, had disappeared from its place in the basement. Yet all the doors and windows were securely locked. For the second time in two days, they stared at each other in blank amazement. And for the second time, it was Bobby who broke the deadlock.

"When I saw that my first two wishes made you angry instead of happy," he started solemnly, "I wished away my first two wishes with my last wish. I was going to ask for a million dollars so that you would never have to worry about money, but it looks like we're better off without it."

For the first time in days, his parents smiled happily at each other. "I guess you're right, Bobby," Bud said proudly. "Money isn't everything. Money couldn't buy a boy like you. And if *I* had one big wish to make, I'd wish that our family stays just as happy as we were before we met the Man in the Wishbone."

THE END H-123

STAMPS

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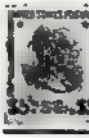

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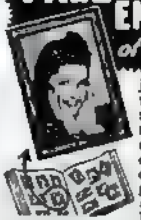

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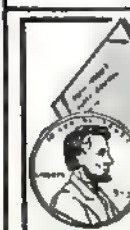

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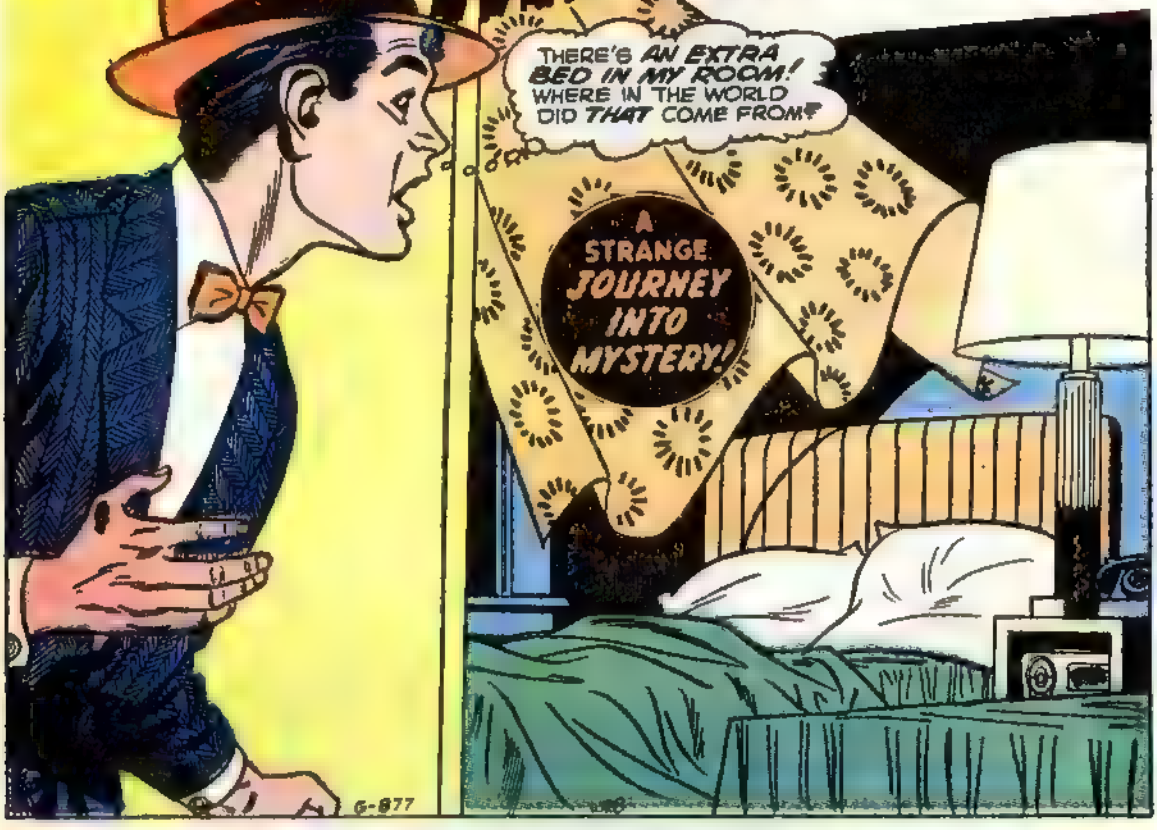
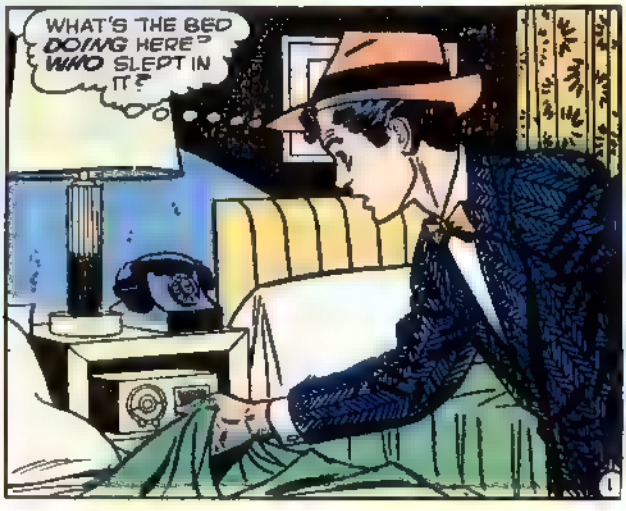
IT BEGAN SOON AFTER JOHNSON'S ILLNESS, AN ILLNESS THAT KEPT HIM OUT OF THE OFFICE FOR ALMOST TWO WEEKS! ONE NIGHT, WHEN JOHNSON RETURNED FROM THE OFFICE, HE NOTICED A STRANGE THING IN HIS APARTMENT, AND THAT WAS THE BEGINNING OF HIS GREAT ORDEAL!

SOMEONE IS IN MY ROOM!

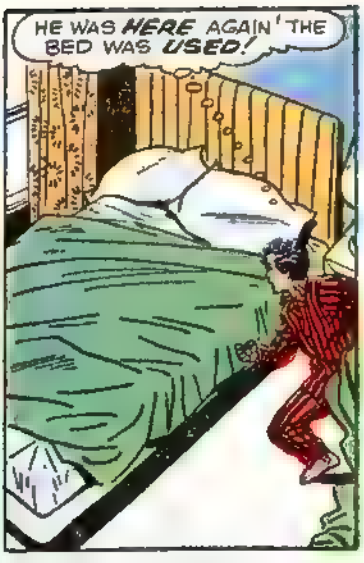




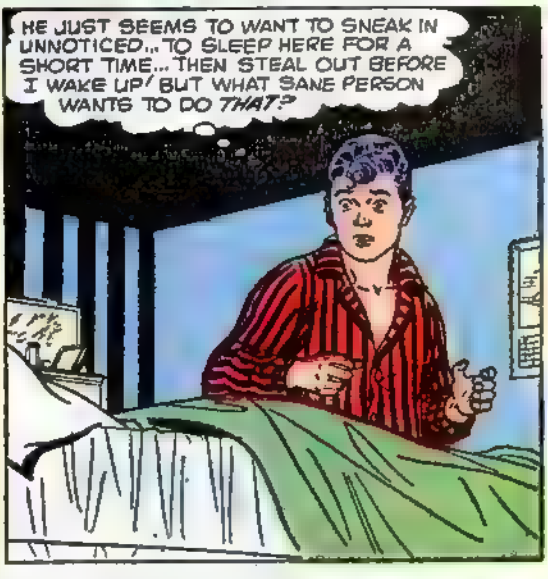
IT'S STILL WARM! WHOEVER WAS LYING IN IT, MUST'VE JUST LEFT!
I'LL TALK TO SWENSEN! HE'D KNOW WHETHER A BED WAS DELIVERED TO MY APARTMENT! NO FURNITURE CAN BE BROUGHT INTO THE BUILDING WITHOUT HIS OKAY!
SHORTLY AFTER, IN THE CELLAR OF THE BUILDING..
SWENSEN, IF SOMEONE TRIED TO DELIVER FURNITURE INTO MY APARTMENT, WOULDN'T YOU KNOW ABOUT IT? I MEAN... NOBODY HAS A KEY TO MY ROOMS EXCEPT YOU AND ME!
THAT'S RIGHT, MR JOHNSON! YOU EXPECT SOME FURNITURE?
IT'S ALREADY BEEN DELIVERED! A BED I NEVER ORDERED! SOMEBODY'S SLEPT IN IT! SOMEBODY GOT INTO MY ROOM! DID YOU LET HIM IN?
NO, MR JOHNSON! I DIDN'T LET ANYBODY IN!
THEN HOW DID IT GET THERE? A BED DOESN'T WALK IN BY ITSELF!
DON'T ASK ME! I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT! I JUST TAKE CARE OF THE BUILDING!
IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE! NO ONE WAS SEEN ENTERING MY APARTMENT! NO ONE SAW THE BED ARRIVE! YET SOMEONE SPENT THE DAY IN MY APARTMENT! SOMEBODY WAS IN MY ROOM!
LATER THAT NIGHT.
I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHO IT WAS! I CAN'T SLEEP KNOWING SOMEONE CAN ENTER MY APARTMENT WHENEVER HE PLEASES! I'LL STAY AWAKE... ALL NIGHT, IF NECESSARY, TO CATCH HIM!

BUT AS HOURS PASSED.. TENSE, WEARY HOURS OF FRUITLESS WAITING...JOHNSON'S EYES SLOWLY CLOSED! BREATHING BECAME EVEN AND DEEP..

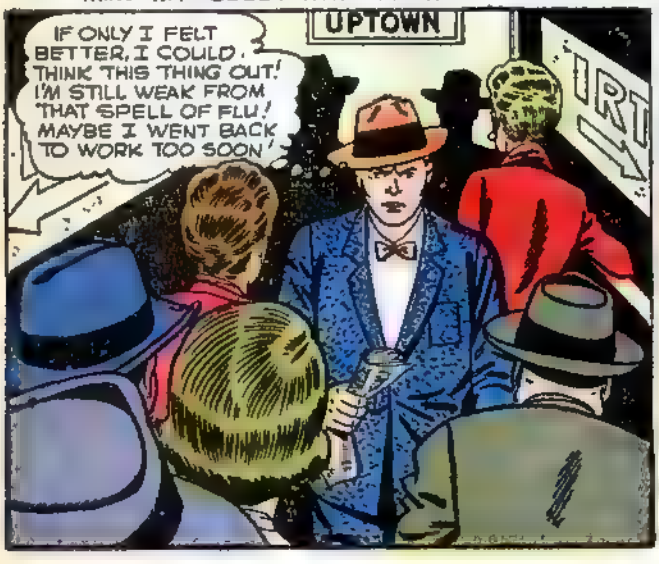
WHEN HE REOPENED HIS EYES, SUNSHINE WAS POURING THRU THE WINDOW..



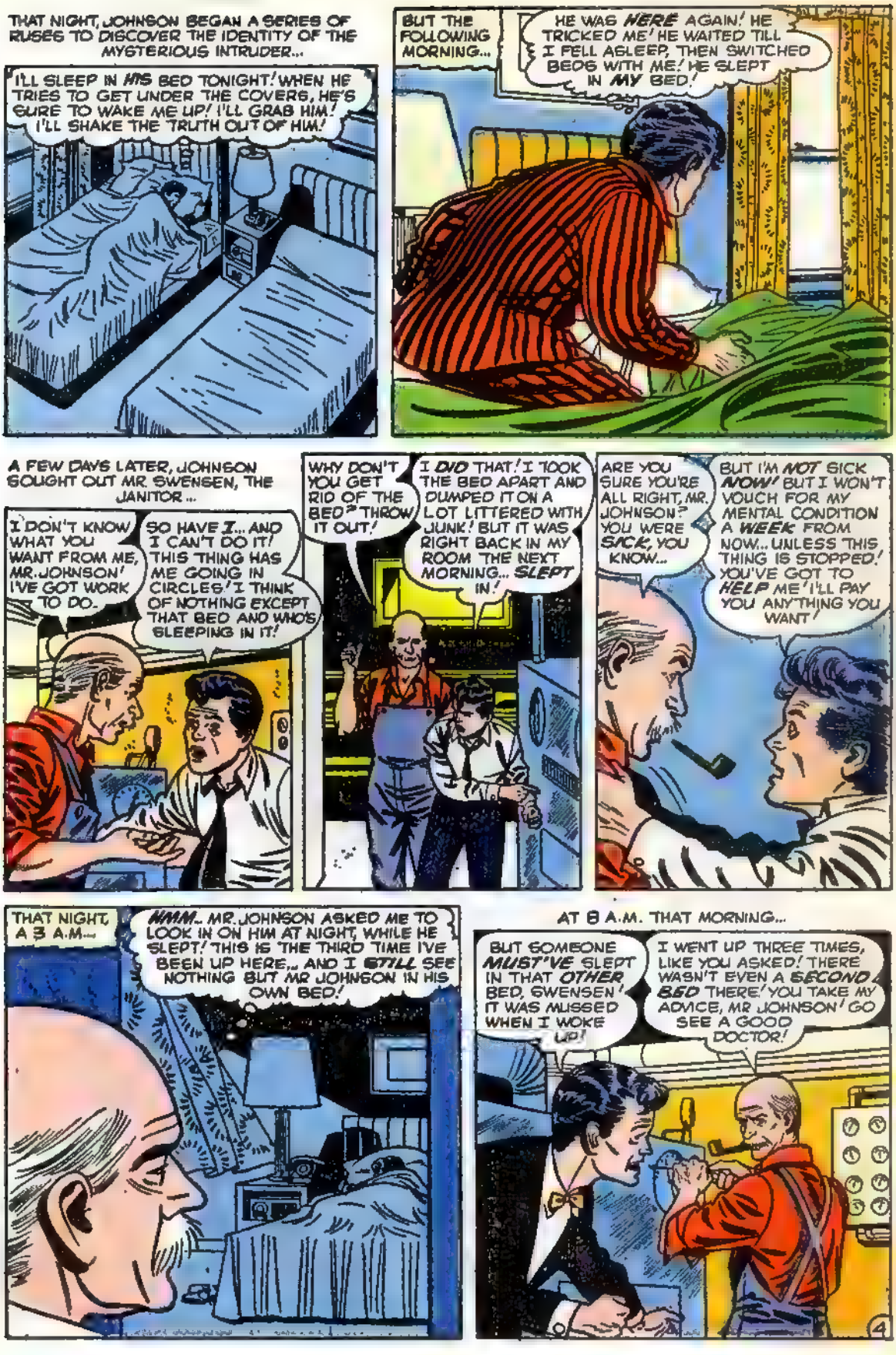
WHY DID HE COME BACK? HE CAN'T BE AFTER MY MONEY! NOTHING'S BEEN STOLEN! HE COULDN'T WANT TO HURT ME! HE'S HAD ENOUGH CHANCES TO DO THAT... AND HASN'T!


HE JUST SEEMS TO WANT TO SNEAK IN UNNOTICED... TO SLEEP HERE FOR A SHORT TIME... THEN STEAL OUT BEFORE I WAKE UP! BUT WHAT SANE PERSON WANTS TO DO THAT?

JOHNSON TRIED TO GO ABOUT HIS DAILY ROUTINES, BUT HIS MIND WAS BESET WITH WORRY...

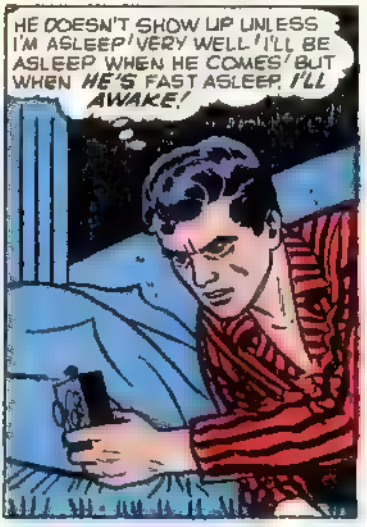

UPTOWN
IF ONLY I FELT BETTER, I COULD THINK THIS THING OUT! I'M STILL WEAK FROM THAT SPELL OF FLU! MAYBE I WENT BACK TO WORK TOO SOON!

WORK COULDN'T DIVERT JOHNSON! HIS MIND KEPT WANDERING BACK TO THE BED... TO ITS UNKNOWN OCCUPANT...


THAT NIGHT, JOHNSON BEGAN A SERIES OF RUSES TO DISCOVER THE IDENTITY OF THE MYSTERIOUS INTRUDER...
I'LL SLEEP IN HIS BED TONIGHT! WHEN HE TRIES TO GET UNDER THE COVERS, HE'S SURE TO WAKE ME UP! I'LL GRAB HIM! I'LL SHAKE THE TRUTH OUT OF HIM!
BUT THE FOLLOWING MORNING...
HE WAS HERE AGAIN! HE TRICKED ME! HE WAITED TILL I FELL ASLEEP, THEN SWITCHED BEDS WITH ME! HE SLEPT IN MY BED!
A FEW DAYS LATER, JOHNSON SOUGHT OUT MR. SWENSEN, THE JANITOR...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WANT FROM ME, MR. JOHNSON! I'VE GOT WORK TO DO.
SO HAVE I... AND I CAN'T DO IT! THIS THING HAS ME GOING IN CIRCLES! I THINK OF NOTHING EXCEPT THAT BED AND WHO'S SLEEPING IN IT!
WHY DON'T YOU GET RID OF THE BED? THROW IT OUT!
I DID THAT! I TOOK THE BED APART AND DUMPED IT ON A LOT LITTERED WITH JUNK! BUT IT WAS RIGHT BACK IN MY ROOM THE NEXT MORNING... SLEPT IN!
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT, MR. JOHNSON? YOU WERE SICK, YOU KNOW...
BUT I'M NOT SICK NOW! BUT I WON'T VOUCH FOR MY MENTAL CONDITION A WEEK FROM NOW... UNLESS THIS THING IS STOPPED! YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME! I'LL PAY YOU ANYTHING YOU WANT!
THAT NIGHT, A 3 A.M...
HMM.. MR. JOHNSON ASKED ME TO LOOK IN ON HIM AT NIGHT, WHILE HE SLEPT! THIS IS THE THIRD TIME I'VE BEEN UP HERE... AND I STILL SEE NOTHING BUT MR JOHNSON IN HIS OWN BED!
AT 8 A.M. THAT MORNING...
BUT SOMEONE MUST'VE SLEPT IN THAT OTHER BED, SWENSEN! IT WAS MUSSED WHEN I WOKE UP!
I WENT UP THREE TIMES, LIKE YOU ASKED! THERE WASN'T EVEN A SECOND BED THERE! YOU TAKE MY ADVICE, MR JOHNSON! GO SEE A GOOD DOCTOR!
4

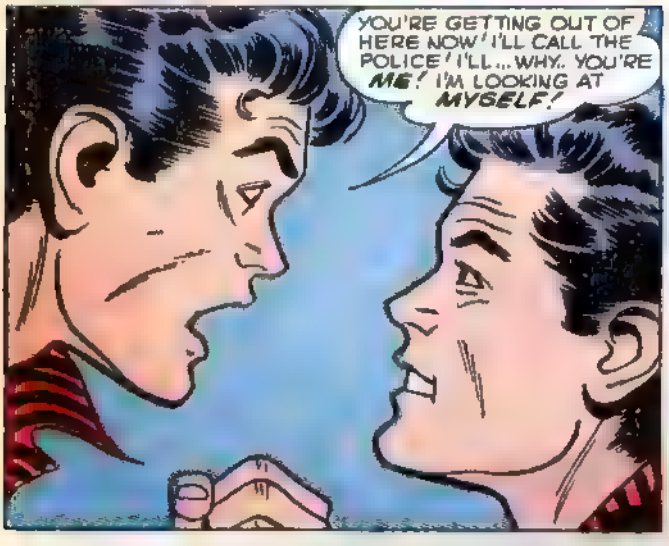
IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH MY MIND? HOW CAN THERE BE? THE BED IS THERE! IT'S NOT AN ILLUSION! IT'S A FACT! HOW CAN A DOCTOR HELP? NOBODY CAN HELP ME EXCEPT MYSELF!
SUBWAY

THAT NIGHT, JOHNSON GRIMLY PREPARED FOR HIS MYSTERIOUS VISITOR ...



AT 2:30 A.M. JOHNSON'S ALARM WENT OFF! A QUICK GLANCE AT THE BED REVEALED THAT SOMEONE WAS THERE.

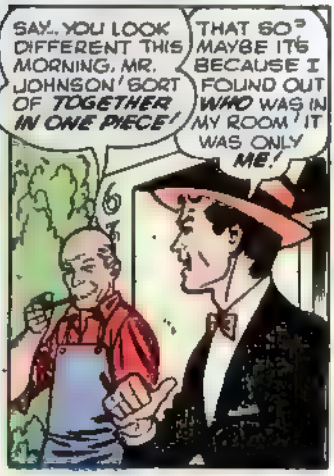
YOU! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? WHY DO YOU SLEEP HERE? WHY DO YOU COME TO MY APARTMENT?
MY DEAR GEORGE, I NEVER LEFT YOUR APARTMENT! I WAS ALWAYS HERE! I'LL NEVER LEAVE YOU!



NOT YOURSELF, GEORGE! YOUR ALTER EGO! DURING YOUR ILLNESS, PART OF YOU RESPONDED TO TREATMENT... THE PHYSICAL PART OF YOU! BUT YOUR SPIRIT REMAINED ILL! YOU WENT THRU THE DAY.. DID YOUR APPOINTED TASKS .. NEVER REALIZING IT WAS ONLY YOUR BODY THAT WENT TO THE OFFICE!

YOUR SPIRIT WAS STILL CONVALESCING AT HOME! IT WAS I.. YOUR SPIRIT.. YOUR ALTER EGO THAT WAS OCCUPYING THAT EXTRA BED! I RESTED, SLEPT, AND ROUTED THE ILLNESS! NOW I'M READY TO REJOIN YOUR BODY!

THE NEXT MORNING GEORGE JOHNSON WALKED FORTH INTO THE STREET WITH A JAUNTY STEP...


SAY.. YOU LOOK DIFFERENT THIS MORNING, MR. JOHNSON! SORT OF TOGETHER IN ONE PIECE!
THAT SO? MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I FOUND OUT WHO WAS IN MY ROOM! IT WAS ONLY ME!

SWENSEN STARED AFTER GEORGE JOHNSON! THERE WERE ALL KINDS OF TENANTS! BUT GEORGE JOHNSON WAS CLEARLY.. THE HAPPIEST!

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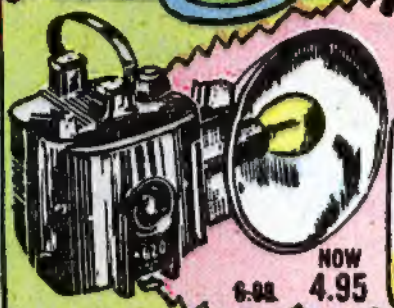
INDOORS! OUTDOORS! BLACK & WHITE! FULL COLOR! PARTIES! NEWS SHOTS!



~~6.98~~ NOW **4.95**

"PRESS ACTION" #620 FLASH

An AMAZING Camera. Takes pictures DAY or NIGHT, indoors or outdoors. Sharp BLACK and WHITE snapshots or FULL COLOR photos, using Kodacolor film. 12 Big pictures on 1 Roll of film. Flash attachment snaps on or off in seconds. Catch valuable news photos. Win admiration at parties, dances. NOW $4.95

CHECK FOR FILM ☐ Special #620 Orthochromatic, 3 ROLLS for $1.00

~~9.50~~ ~~9.98~~ NOW **6.98** **6.99**

PERFECT for active women and girls. Fine JEWELLED movement in dainty case. GILT hands and numbers. Smart Link Expansion Bracelet NOW $6.98

BEST for active men and boys. SHOCK-RESISTANT and ANTI-MAGNETIC! Luminous Dial! Jewelled Movement! Red Sweep-Second! Expansion Bracelet. NOW $6.99

~~10.00~~ **7.99** ~~10.50~~ NOW **8.49**

HANDSOME new style in rich GOLD finish case. Smart Midnight Dial is set with 12 Flashing imitation DIAMONDS and RUBIES. Fine Jewelled movement. Luminous Dial, Sweep-Second hand. Gilt Bracelet. NOW $7.99

Ladies' Jewelled Watch in a smart Gold finish case. Dial has 12 Flashing imitation DIAMONDS and RUBIES. Glamorous Snake Bracelet NOW $8.49

AUTOMATIC DATE INDICATOR

~~$10.00~~ **$8.95**

TELLS
- TIME
- DATE
- SPEED
- DISTANCE

SPORTSMAN'S WATCH. Ideal for outdoor use. Measures speed, distance. Luminous Dial, Unbreakable Crystal, fine Jewelled movement With Expansion Bracelet. $8.95

7 JEWELS

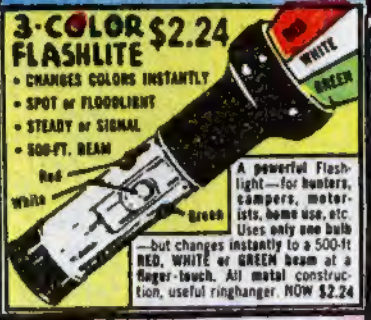
9.95 ~~12.95~~

Rich BRILLIANT Watch you'll be real proud of! Fine Guaranteed 7 JEWEL Movement. Sparkling Dial set with 11 Flashing imitation DIAMONDS and RUBIES. In GOLD finish case, Dome Crystal. Basketweave Bracelet. NOW $9.95

SPECIAL — This same fine Watch with choice 15 JEWEL MOVEMENT. $12.98

3-COLOR FLASHLITE $2.24

- CHANGES COLORS INSTANTLY
- SPOT or FLOODLIGHT
- STEADY or SIGNAL
- 500-FT. BEAM



A powerful Flashlight—for hunters, campers, motorists, home use, etc. Uses only one bulb —but changes instantly to a 500-ft RED, WHITE or GREEN beam at a finger-touch. All metal construction, useful ringhanger. NOW $2.24

GENUINE ZIRCON Bridal Set has real ½-CARAT ZIRCON & 7 Sparkling imitation Diamonds. In Genuine 10K GOLD Filled mountings. NOW $4.98

DIAMOND RING for Men. 14K R.G.P. REAL DIAMOND CHIP on Gen. MOTHER-OF-PEARL face. 2 RUBY color side SPARKLERS. NOW $4.98

NO-RISK HOME TRIAL

If not delighted, return for FULL PRICE REFUND. Every article we sell is GUARANTEED! Order from this famous company and be convinced.

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GUARANTEED SAVINGS

ROMANCE SET

3.74 ~~9.98~~

Real Sparkling, Shining BEAUTY! Engagement Ring has 4 Flashing Brilliants and a BEAUTIFUL imitation DIAMOND SOLITAIRE. 7 Twinkling Brilliants in the Wedding Ring. 12K GOLD Filled. Both rings NOW $3.74

INITIAL RING

A Handsome, Masculine Ring with your own INITIAL set in Raised GOLD effect on a BRILLIANT RUBY-RED color stone. With 2 SPARKLING imitation DIAMONDS on the sides. Rich 14K R.G.P. NOW $3.79

3.79 ~~4.98~~

10K BIRTHMONTH RING

~~5.98~~ **3.98**

Fine BIRTHMONTH RING with your own PERSONAL BIRTHMONTH STONE set in a real GENUINE 10K GOLD Mounting on Solid Sterling Silver shank. Beautifully engraved. Choose Ruby, Emerald or Sapphire colors. NOW $3.98

MAIL THIS COUPON

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Box 232 Mad. Sq. Sta., New York 10, N.Y.

Just cut out pictures of articles desired and attach to this coupon. Pay postman plus few cents postage and excise tax on delivery. THEN EXAMINE IN YOUR OWN HOME. SATISFACTION IS GUARANTEED OR YOUR MONEY BACK.

PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ STATE _____

Send RING SIZES, INITIAL WANTED and your BIRTHMONTH. If you need more room, attach a sheet of paper.

"Hollywood Bride" WALKING DOLL

UNBREAKABLE PLASTIC

including a Gorgeous Trousseau of

7 COMPLETE OUTFITS

BUY DIRECT and SAVE!

regular $14.95 value

$5.95

Coat and Scarf

Sheer Nightgown

Plastic Raincoat

Afternoon Dress

Glamorous Hostess Gown

Ballerina Costume

Hollywood Bride Has Everything!

- SITS—STANDS—SLEEPS
- HEAD TURNS
- UNBREAKABLE
- WASHABLE FROM HEAD TO TOE
- GUARANTEED MECHANISM

She's really 7 dolls in 1! She's dressed in an exquisite wedding gown of shimmering rayon satin—and has a complete trousseau suitable for any "dress-up" occasion. You can change her costume, wash and wave her hair in any style. She turns her head as she walks. Unbreakable, washable plastic body. Sparkling "go-to-sleep" eyes. She sits up and stands. Fully jointed, finely detailed, 18 in. high. ***You get all 7 outfits and this lovely doll at one unbelievable low price.***

MAGIC SARAN HAIR

Set Hair any Style

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

Nirosk Industries, Inc., Dept. HB-3
4757 Ravenswood Ave., Chicago 40, Ill.

Please rush glamorous Hollywood Bride doll and 7 outfits at $5.95 plus C.O.D. postage. Full purchase price refunded if not satisfied.

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ADDRESS _____ (please print)

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

☐ To save postage, I enclose $5.95—ship prepaid.

☐ I enclose $1.00 deposit—will pay balance C.O.D. plus postage.

(In Canada $7.95.) Nirosk, 853 Kingston Road, Toronto 8.

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Hi Pal! **Win $100** as I just did!

Come on, Buddy, Quit being A BAG-of-BONES Weakling like I was

IN 10 MINUTES OF FUN A DAY YOU Can do *ALL I did!*

I gained **25** Terrific LBS. of **HANDSOME POWER-PACKED MUSCLES** all over!

I improved my **HE-MAN LOOKS 1000%**

I won **NEW STRENGTH** for money-making work! for WINNING at all SPORTS!

I won **NEW POPULARITY** Won NEW FRIENDS, BOYS & GIRLS NEW CHANCES for BUSINESS SUCCESS

BEFORE

How did I do ALL This? I mailed the Coupon and got These 5 PICTURE-PACKED HE-MAN COURSES Which YOU can NOW get FREE

BEFORE $1 PRICE GOES BACK
Millions Sold for $1

"I'm PROUD to be seen with Jim NOW! Everybody admires his build," says Nellie. "Jim can lift the front of a 2700 lb. car. He amazes his friends!"

You'll be A Real ATHLETE in ALL SPORTS Soon after YOU mail Coupon.

Jim is a WINNER in ALL SPORTS NOW. YOU will be, too, soon.

GET ALL 5 FREE

HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY CHEST
By GEORGE F. JOWETT
1
"I added 7 inches to my CHEST 3 inches to each ARM" says Jobie Jackson
HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY ARM
By GEORGE F. JOWETT
3
HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY BACK
By GEORGE F. JOWETT
4
HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY GRIP
By GEORGE F. JOWETT
5
HOW TO MOLD MIGHTY LEGS
By GEORGE F. JOWETT

YOU CAN WIN a BIG 15" SILVER CUP as I just did! with **YOUR NAME** engraved on it!

JIM NORMAN

AFTER

He Mailed Coupon

Below is Cleveland

BEFORE

He Mailed Coupon

He says, **I gained 70 lbs. of mighty muscle**

2 COME ON, PAL, NOW YOU give me **10** PLEASANT MINUTES A DAY IN YOUR OWN HOME like Jim did and I'll give YOU A NEW HE-MAN BODY for your OLD SKELETON FRAME

"Congratulations, John! At last you mailed the coupon as EVERY MAN should. Soon You'll be as big and strong as I am," says Jim Norman to John Luckus

NO! I don't care how skinny or flabby you are I'll make you OVER by the SAME method I turned myself from a wreck to the strongest of the strong. Why can't I do for you what I did for MANY THOUSANDS of skinny fellows like You?

Develop YOUR 520 MUSCLES Gain Pounds, INCHES FAST!

YES! You'll see INCHES of MIGHTY MUSCLE added to your ARMS and CHEST. Your BACK and SHOULDERS broadened. From head to heels you'll gain SIZE, POWER, SPEED. You'll be A WINNER in EVERYTHING you tackle.

Mail the "ALL FREE" coupon get this "AMAZING SECRETS" Photo Book

You'll **LOOK, FEEL, ACT,** like A Real **HE-MAN!** Win Women and Men Friends. Win In Sports! Win Promotion, Praise, Popularity.

AMAZING SECRETS
How to Win MUSCLES like IRON NERVES of STEEL
World's Great EXPERT Tells You How YOU Can BECOME An All-Around ALL-AMERICAN HE-MAN in 10 MINUTES of FUN A DAY in YOUR HOME
PHOTO BOOK

This BOOK will also show You HOW YOU CAN WIN $100.00 and a BIG 15" tall SILVER TROPHY (Your Name On It)

LAST CHANCE-ALL FREE COUPON

1. FIVE COURSES 2. MUSCLE METER 3. Photo Book of STRONG MEN

Dept. MA-511

Tell Me How To WIN $100, etc.

"Jowett Courses greatest in World for Building All-Around HE-MEN" — R. F. Kelley, Physical Director

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220 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

Dear George: Please mail to me FREE Jowett's Photo Book of Strong Men and a Muscle Meter, plus all 5 HE-MAN Building Courses: 1 How to Build a Mighty Chest 2 How to Build a Mighty Arm 3 How to Build a Mighty Grip 4 How to Build a Mighty Back 5 How to Build Mighty Legs. Now all in One Volume "How to become a Mighty HE-MAN." ENCLOSED FIND 10c FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING (no C.O.D.'s)

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ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

Mail Coupon in Time for FREE offer and PRIZES!

SAVES you YEARS and DOLLARS!!!

Take your choice of these wonderful prizes or many others shown in our Big Prize Book. Most prizes are given without a cent of cost for selling just one order of 24 Christmas Packs at 25c a pack. A few prizes require extra cash. Many boys and girls sell the packs in one day and get their prize at once. You can, too.

Be First in Your Neighborhood

It's easy to sell these pretty Christmas Packs to your family, friends and neighbors. Each pack contains 4 Christmas Cards, 4 Envelopes and 32 sparkling Christmas Seals—40 pieces for 25c—a big value. When sold send us the money and choose your prize from Big Prize Book sent FREE with your order. Or keep $2.00 in cash for each order you sell.

Send No Money—We Trust You

Smart boys and girls have been getting prizes and money this easy way for over 35 years. Mail the coupon today—We'll send your Christmas Packs and Big Prize Book at once. American Specialty Co., Dept. 6, Lancaster, Pa.

Prize Winner Gary Fisher Says: "Thank you for the Archery Set, Flash Camera and other prizes. Selling was easy."

MAIL THIS—Send No Money

AMERICAN SPECIALTY CO.
Dept. 6, Lancaster, Pa.

Please send me your BIG PRIZE BOOK and one order of 24 Christmas Packs. I will resell them at 25c each, send you the money and choose my prize.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ Zone____ State_____